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A Marine salutes a passing horse-drawn caisson during a full-honors funeral at Arlington National Cemetery in February.

ROBERT KNAPP
Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

'It's just not right'

Families of ex-POWs angry that loved ones can't receive full honors at Arlington

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Chinese smartphones sold on US bases cited as security risk

By WILL MORRIS
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Chinese-made smartphones that the heads of U.S. intelligence have urged Americans not to buy are being sold to servicemembers across Germany at on-base exchange facilities.

The Huawei phones, which are being sold by TKS, an Army and Air Force Exchange Service concessionary and subsid-

iary of Vodafone, could be used to gather sensitive information, according to U.S. intelligence agencies. They are banned for official government use in most cases.

The Defense Department asked whether Huawei mobile phones were being sold at exchange facilities but has not offered any other direction, said AAFES senior spokesman Chris Ward.

"We responded 'yes' and have had no other inquiries," Ward said in an email response.

"Should there be an official determination made by law enforcement officials that these phones present a security risk, the Exchange will instruct its vendors to remove impacted products from their assortment."

Officials at Ramstein Air Base, where Europe's largest exchange and a TKS concessionary operate, said they are aware that the phones are being sold on base.

Although officials did not address Huawei specifically, they said that service-

members should adhere to operational security standards when they post anything online, take pictures or configure their location settings.

"Servicemembers need to pay attention," said Lt Col. Joel Harper, an 86th Airlift Wing spokesman. "Regardless of where the device is purchased, on base or off base, servicemembers should practice good [operational security]."

SEE HUAWEI ON PAGE 4

MILITARY

Protesters try to block convoy to THAAD base

By KIM GAMEL
AND YOO KYONG CHANG
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — A convoy delivered construction material and other equipment to the military base housing a controversial U.S. missile defense system Monday after riot police scuffled with protesters trying to block the road, according to officials and witnesses.

South Korea's Ministry of National Defense said it decided to make the move despite continued protests because of an urgent need to improve living conditions of the U.S. and South Korean soldiers on the former golf course-turned-base in the remote southeastern area of Seongju.

"The MND decided it couldn't delay the construction anymore," it said Monday in a statement. "We have decided to begin transporting personnel, material and equipment necessary for construction today in cooperation with police."

Ministry officials have tried to persuade the protesters to allow peaceful passage of the trucks, saying the equipment is needed to fix leaky roofs, build sewage treatment facilities and do other maintenance. But residents and activists, who fiercely object to the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, suspect it's a ruse to build military infrastructure.

The Yonhap News Agency reported that 22 vehicles carrying construction material, equipment and workers entered the THAAD



Courtesy of Mo Inkyu

South Korean police surround residents protesting at a base housing a controversial U.S. missile defense system on Monday.

base about three hours after police began removing about 200 protesters staging a sit-in on a bridge. Police placed four air mattresses under the bridge in case of falls.

About 1,500 riot police were deployed to provide security, and several protesters and officers were injured in scuffles, but none of the injuries was serious, according to a local officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to talk to the media. No U.S. military forces or vehicles were involved, he said.

Several conservative groups also traveled to the village to show support for THAAD, which was initially agreed to by former President Park Geun-hye before she was ousted in a corruption and influence-peddling scandal.

The effort to station a THAAD system in the melon-farming area has faced several hurdles since

it began in 2016, with Seoul and Washington saying the anti-missile battery was needed to face the growing threat from North Korea.

Villagers in the area said they fear adverse health and economic effects from the system, which includes six truck-mounted launchers and a powerful radar. Peace activists also object to its presence, saying it makes the area a target by threatening the North.

The 4th Air Defense Artillery Regiment assumed the THAAD mission in October after it was realigned with the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade in South Korea.

U.S. Forces Korea has said contractors have conducted site surveys for basic maintenance and routine repairs and no construction was being done to enhance THAAD operations.

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Wasp strike group concludes patrol

By JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan — After more than a month at sea accompanying the USS Wasp amphibious warship and F-35B stealth fighters on their first patrol of the Western Pacific, 2,300 Marines are back on Okinawa.

The Wasp Expeditionary Strike Group dropped the Marines off Saturday at White Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa, after a month-long patrol that included air defense exercises with Air Force F-35A and Navy F/A-18 aircraft, live-fire drills, simulated Tomahawk missile strikes and anti-submarine warfare training, a Navy statement said.

The Wasp, which arrived at its new homeport of Sasebo Naval Base in January, also conducted a "ready-for-sea assessment" and trained alongside a Japanese amphibious transport dock ship in the East China Sea.

Sailors and Marines with the strike group practiced raiding a beach with small boats and amphibious assault vehicles, evacuating civilians, treating wounded, providing disaster relief and seizing a smuggler's vessel, the Navy statement said.

The patrol, which included a pair of Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyers — the USS Dewey and USS Sterett — was a "proof of concept" for the Navy and Marine Corps, Task Force 76 commander Rear Adm. Brad Cropper told Stars and Stripes.

"[It's] not your grandfather's amphibious readiness group," he said. "It's a lethal, capable, integrated naval force that is designed to conduct both the sea-control mission, which is what we do in the Navy, as well as project power ashore."

Combining the F-35B with destroyers is a big advantage, giving the strike group the ability to hunt enemy submarines and ships and engage in surface-to-surface combat, Cooper said.

Sensors on the destroyers' Tomahawk missiles are able to detect enemy aircraft at long range, while the F-35B can defend amphibious forces. Sensors aboard the ships give commanders a robust picture of the battlespace, he said.

Capt. Ed Thompson, who led the strike group as commodore of Amphibious Squadron 11, said in the statement that his ships, aircraft, sailors and Marines "created a highly capable, flexible force ready for the spectrum of operations at sea."

The destroyers have left the strike group and will eventually return to their homeport in San Diego, the statement said. Navy leaders are already reviewing lessons learned on the patrol and will incorporate those into future deployments, Thompson added.

The Wasp arrived in Japan earlier this year to replace the USS Bonhomme Richard, which is heading to San Diego for upgrades after spending six years based out of Sasebo.

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VETERANS

"don't think it's right"

Denial of full honors at Arlington irks ex-POWs' kin

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

Army Pvt. 1st Class Robert Fletcher was captured by Chinese forces in Korea on Nov. 27, 1950, after heavy fighting.

The Buffalo Soldier endured three years in captivity, during which he was subjected to starvation, freezing temperatures and physical and psychological torture. He carried these scars until his death Feb. 12.

Thanks to an act of Congress regarding prisoners of war, the native of Ann Arbor, Mich., will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on June 4.

However, his survivors have joined a growing number of dissatisfied POW families angry that enlisted POWs who survived captivity and made it home are denied full honors — not notably, an escort and the iconic horse-drawn caisson — at the nation's most hallowed cemetery.

Those honors are reserved for officers and those killed in action.

"It's just disgusting," said Fletcher's daughter, Kanda Fletcher. "My dad fought that war and lived the POW experience until the day he died ... and you're going to sit there and tell my family that ... he can't be buried with full honors because he wasn't and could never be an officer? I don't think it's right."



R. Fletcher

Fletcher is not alone. "I wanted the caisson because I thought, after all he had been through for this country, that he deserved that," said Charlotte Smith, whose husband, Bill, died at 86 in June 2016. He was captured in Korea on Nov. 2, 1950. Like Fletcher, he spent nearly three years in captivity, followed by 15 months recuperating at what was then Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington.

Before he died, Bill Smith told his wife he wanted to be buried at Arlington with his "band of brothers."

When we started the process to bury him in Arlington, I — in my naivety — thought that he would be honored with a full military service, and when I asked for that, they said, 'Oh no, no, he has to be an officer or be killed in action.'" Charlotte Smith said. "I said, 'Do you mean to tell me that after he spent 2 1/2 years and went through the torture that he went through, that he is not entitled to that?' It's not right."

Myriad regulations

The rules regarding burial and honors at Arlington can be confusing.

Records flagged as POW by Period of Service and Military Branch living as of Aug. 7, 2017

	Army	Air Force	Marine	Navy	Unknown	Total	Percent
World War II	2,506	321	30	67	427	3,351	66%
Korean War	503	86	30	31	24	674	13%
Vietnam Era	357	205	93	171	8	834	16%
Gulf War I	26	13	12	12	1	64	1%
Gulf War II	6	1	1	1	—	9	0%
Unknown	12	4	8	5	110	139	3%
Total	3,398	626	166	282	460	5,071	
Percent	67%	12%	3%	6%	9%		

SOURCE: USVETS 2016/3

By SCHULTE/Stars and Stripes

Eligibility for former POWs is established by the Code of Federal Regulations, according to Renea Yates, Arlington's deputy superintendent for cemetery administration. It said any former POW who served honorably and died on or after Nov. 30, 1993, can be buried in-ground there.

A Defense Department instruction titled "Military Funeral Support," sets a standardized baseline of services to be provided, Yates said. That includes a two-person uniformed detail, the playing of taps, the folding of the flag and presentation to the family of the deceased.

Additional elements such as a rifle detail, a color guard, pallbearers, a caisson and a military flyover "could be provided ... if personnel and resources are available," the Defense Department's "Military Funeral Honors" website says.

On top of the Defense Department's standardized guidelines, the veteran's service branch has discretion over which, if any, additional honors are bestowed, Yates said. Arlington follows an Army regulation titled "Salutes, Honors and Visits of Courtesy" as administrator over the cemetery.

The minimum, per the Army regulations, for enlisted service members eligible for in-ground burial provides a casket team, a firing party, the playing of taps by a bugler, and a chaplain, which is what Fletcher will receive, Yates said.

Officers eligible for burial at Arlington, as well as E-9s, are eligible for "full honors," which includes an additional escort, a marching element, a band and the horse-drawn caisson.

"The decedent's branch of service provides the respective military honors for his or her service and the level of military honors rendered depends on the rank of the deceased as well as service customs, traditions and availability," Arlington spokeswoman Kerry Meeker wrote in a statement to Stars and Stripes. "There are no stipulations that afford prisoners of war different funeral honors."

The same policy applies to Medal of Honor recipients, Yates said.

Yates said she feels bad that some families walk away from the process unhappy, but said Arlington can barely keep up with the current number of requests.

There are only eight horse-drawn caisson slots per day, and the cemetery performs up to 30 burials, she said. There is a minimum of a four-month wait to receive standard honors at Arlington and a seven- to nine-month wait for full honors and the caisson.

There were 5,071 former POWs living in the U.S. as of August, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs. However, that tally could be incomplete, as it includes only those in the VA system.

'Shame on you'

Kanda Fletcher lamented that officers who never stood on the firing line could get full honors at Arlington, but enlisted former POWs could not.

"Shame on you," she said, directing her anger to the Army and Arlington. "My dad deserves so much more than that."

Robert Fletcher dropped out of high school at 17 and joined the Army in 1950. In a few months, he was in Japan as a member of the 24th Infantry Regiment, an acclaimed unit of black soldiers and white officers.

When the Korean War started, Fletcher's regiment was the first to go to the peninsula, he would later tell journalist/filmmaker James Miltzner in a 2013 documentary. They arrived at Busan and pushed toward Seoul.

The North Koreans and the Americans took turns "whipping each other out. Of the 250 men Fletcher landed with, 212 were killed. The regiment received relocations and rejoined the fight. It wasn't long before the North Korean army was decimated.

Fletcher's regiment was sent north to the Yalu River, which separates North Korea and China.

The Chinese were waiting for



ELIZABETH FRASER/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment Caisson Platoon, known as "The Old Guard," escorts a former Army colonel to his final resting place April 2 at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

them.

"On Nov. 27 [1950], we got hit with everything but the kitchen stove," Fletcher recalled.

They lost more than 100 men, including half of Fletcher's squad. Many, including the unit leader, were wounded.

"We were caught on a little knoll. We were out of ammunition; I had, I think, a clip left," Fletcher said in the film. "Some people had four or five rounds ... I really don't know how we could have fought any longer."

As a unit, the men decided to surrender to the Chinese. Wearing summer clothes, they were marched toward prison camps as temperatures dropped well below freezing.

"A lot of guys froze to death; a lot of guys starved to death; a lot of guys died from wounds," Fletcher recalled.

They were passed from the Chinese to the North Koreans, who exacted their revenge. Dysentery claimed many men.

"The death rate started climbing," he said. "I was 180 pounds and I went down to about 90 pounds."

Fletcher recalled being forced to watch fellow soldiers thrown into a pit alive and eaten by rats, or tied to a tripod and soaked with water repeatedly until they froze to death.

He remained in captivity until Aug. 8, 1953.

Out of 8,000 prisoners taken with him, Fletcher said only 3,000 came back alive.

"I don't know why I survived," he said. "I just said the good Lord up there was not ready for me. That's the only thing I can say."

'Entirely offensive'

Fletcher — who was dedicated to veterans' issues and spent 22 years on the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War — hadn't even wanted to be buried at Arlington, but his family pushed him into it. Hearing that he won't receive full honors at the nation's most hallowed cemetery felt like a slap in the face.

"It doesn't sit well with advocates either."

"Of course, this is ridiculous!"

Korean and Cold War POW/MIA Network Executive Director John Zimmerlee wrote in an email to Stars and Stripes.

National League of POW/MIA Families chairwoman and CEO Ann Mills-Griffiths doubted that denying former POWs full honors even could be happening.

"Why would this occur? It makes no sense," she wrote to Stars and Stripes. "If that is true, then it is entirely offensive."

Attempts to get the policy changed or to get exemptions have failed.

Charlotte Smith said her family was offered the horse-drawn caisson from the family of an officer who was not a POW but was eligible for burial with full honors, but Arlington would not allow it.

After receiving a complaint from Fletcher's family, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., tried to intervene to get full honors for Robert Fletcher, Kanda Fletcher said. She was not successful.

A high-ranking military officer who knew Robert Fletcher also tried. Arlington officials said any changes to policy would have to come from Secretary of the Army Mark Esper or Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis.

For the loved ones left behind, depriving these men full honors continues to pick away at them.

"I was angry; I was hurt. I was incensed for my husband because I felt like it made him less honored for what he had done for this country," Charlotte Smith said. "It's just not right. When he came back at 82 rounds, he suffered just as much as an officer did. They went through the same torture; they went through the same cold; they went through the same deprivation."

Nevertheless, Smith said it would not take away from the legacy of Bill Smith and his fellow enlisted POWs, like Fletcher. Smith was most proud that he never signed a confession in captivity and never "turned his back on a buddy."

"He never gave in," she said. "He always said they got to his body but they never got to his mind."

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PACIFIC

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

PSEOUL, South Korea — President Moon Jae-in has the opportunity to finish what his mentor started when he sits down with North Korea's leader Friday for only the third summit between the rival nations since the 1950-53 war. He knows it won't be easy.

The 65-year-old former human rights lawyer had a front-row seat to the second summit in 2007 as the right-hand man to then-President Roh Moo-hyun, although he didn't attend the meeting.

"For this reason, I can say I have experience in holding an inter-Korean summit and making it a success," he said in a speech last week.

"Nonetheless, now is a far cry from then," he acknowledged. "The North's nuclear weapons and missiles have now become incomparably more sophisticated than at that time."

Moon, the son of North Korean refugees who fled to the South during the war, took power on May 10, 2017, after winning a snap election following the ouster of his hard-line predecessor, Park Geun-hye.

He came to office promising to seek peace with the North, following in the footsteps of Roh and South Korea's other liberal president, Kim Dae-jung, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2000 for his so-called "Sunshine Policy."

Moon's ambitious proposals have included reconnecting an inter-Korean railway and building a gas pipeline connecting the two Koreas with Russia.

His mission was quickly complicated by newly tested missiles by the communist state and an escalating war of words between the North and President Donald Trump.

While Washington and Seoul professed their long-standing alliance as "ironclad" as ever, the Koreans clearly differed over the approach toward the defiant regime.

Trump threatened to unleash "fire and fury" and to "totally destroy" the North if necessary. At one point his administration raised the possibility of a preventive strike. Military officials warned that would lead to fierce retaliation by the North, which has hundreds of thousands of soldiers and a massive arsenal of conventional weapons positioned near the heavily fortified border region.

Moon agreed to increased sanctions and diplomatic pressure on



Courtesy of the Blue House

South Korean President Moon Jae-in, right, greets North Korean officials Kim Yong Nam and Kim Yo Jong, sister of leader Kim Jong Un, during a February concert in Seoul, South Korea.

Moon's mission

Summit a 2nd chance at peace for South Korean leader

Pyeongyang but insisted he would never allow another war on the peninsula and that no military action could take place without his permission.

Humble beginnings

Moon Jae-in was born on a small, southeastern island about six months before the United States and North Korea signed an armistice that ended the hostilities but left the peninsula technically in a state of war.

He spent much of his youth in poverty before entering Kyung Hee University in Seoul. Moon spent months in jail after joining a pro-democracy movement to topple the dictatorship of Park Chung-hee, who ruled the country for 18 years until he was assassinated in 1979. Park is the father of the recently ousted president.

Moon was eventually conscripted into the military's special forces and became a human rights lawyer after his service ended.

He joined Roh's law office in

the early 1980s and defended the rights of poor laborers and student activists until he followed his mentor into the president's office as an aide in 2003.

Moon, who was dubbed "Roh Moo-hyun's shadow" by the local media, was never comfortable in the Blue House and quit in 2004 to go on a long hike in the Himalayas. He returned after a short period as Roh faced impeachment over alleged election law violations.

Moon also served as a defense lawyer when Roh faced a corruption investigation after leaving office and has said the former president's subsequent suicide in May 2009 prompted him to join politics.

He wrote in a best-selling memoir that Roh had changed his life.

Moon lost the 2012 election to Park Geun-hye by 1 million votes but gained support amid the public outrage against her conservative government as millions of South Koreans took to the streets calling for her ouster.

His popularity ratings hovered in the 60 to 70 percent range, according to weekly polls.

The president began courting North Korean leader Kim Jong Un almost immediately, saying he was even willing to travel to Pyongyang under the right conditions.

"I will do everything in my power to bring peace to the peninsula," he said in his inauguration speech.

The Feb. 9-25 Winter Olympics, which were held in the South Korean alpine town of Pyeongchang, turned out to be his lucky break.

His administration tirelessly lobbied the North to join the competition, then hosted Kim's powerful sister and other emissaries with fanfare at a banquet and later a joint concert.

"Moon Jae-in certainly played a crucial role in changing North Korea's direction," Cheong Seong-chang, a senior research fellow at South Korea's Sejong Institute, said during a recent forum.

Middle man

Moon also has faced a delicate balance between efforts to engage the North and maintaining his country's long-standing alliance with the U.S. even as Trump adopted increasingly belligerent rhetoric.

"The one area in which Moon Jae-in has differed from Trump is his belief that war is not possible under any circumstance," Cheong said.

Moon's efforts so far will culminate on Friday when he meets with Kim in the truce village of Panmunjom in the heavily fortified border that divides the peninsula.

Moon has proposed a phased approach in which North Korea declares its commitment to denuclearization and a permanent peace regime on the peninsula in exchange for a security guarantee for the regime. That would be followed by a freeze and eventually the complete dismantling of the North's nuclear weapons program, backed by a strong verification system.

He got a boost when North Korea announced over the weekend that it was suspending intercontinental ballistic missile tests and closing its nuclear testing facility.

The two Koreas also installed an unprecedented telephone hotline between their leaders last week.

Unlike the previous inter-Korean summits between their predecessors in 2007 and 2000, Moon's meeting with Kim will be mainly seen as a preview for the first U.S.-North Korean summit, which Trump has said is to be held in May or June.

China also is hovering over the process as North Korea's main benefactor, as evidenced by Kim's secretive train trip last month to Beijing where he met with President Xi Jinping in his first trip abroad since assuming power in 2011.

Moon, who has given Trump credit for the recent diplomatic successes, has acknowledged his role as mediator, saying that he believes it's possible to reach a framework agreement in principle on denuclearization.

"Ultimately, such an agreement has to be concluded between the United States and North Korea, not between the two Koreas," he said last week during a meeting with local news executives.

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Huawei: China has been target of numerous US regulations related to national security

FROM FRONT PAGE

In February, the director of national intelligence, along with the heads of the CIA, FBI, National Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, testified before a Senate committee that Americans should not use Huawei products because of the security risks they pose.

The concern about Huawei first focused on routers, switches and other high-bandwidth commercial products but later expanded to consumer mobile phones.

FBI Director Christopher Wray testified that Huawei products provide the Chinese government with the ability to maliciously modify or steal information and to conduct undetected espionage.

"We're deeply concerned about the risks of allowing any company or entity that is beholden to foreign governments that don't share our values to gain positions of power inside our telecommunications networks," Wray said.

Huawei is also one maker of personal mobile internet modems, also called "pucks," which

in recent years have been sold to U.S. troops at a coalition base near Irbil, the capital of Iraq's Kurdish region. Some soldiers may have purchased similar devices made by Chinese telecom company ZTE, which was sanctioned by the U.S. government for violating trade embargoes by sending U.S.-made components to Iran inside its devices.

Huawei is a private company started by a former People's Liberation Army officer.

U.S. intelligence officials say the company has very close ties to

the national Chinese government. Spokesmen for the company have repeatedly denied claims their devices pose any security risks. The devices are used commonly throughout Europe.

Huawei has been the target of numerous U.S. regulations and laws meant to address national security concerns, such as a law in 2013 that required federal law enforcement agencies to sign off on certain purchases by government agencies of Huawei products.

New rules proposed by the Federal Communications Com-

munication would bar U.S. telecommunications companies that receive FCC subsidies from buying products from foreign companies with security concerns.

Companies have yet to be named, but Huawei is expected to make the list of banned companies. A bill introduced in January by Rep. Michael Conway, a Republican from Texas, would make it illegal for U.S. government contractors to use any Huawei equipment.

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Syrian troops look to isolate ISIS in Damascus battle

By BASSEM MROUE
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian government forces moved to cut off Islamic State militants in southern Damascus from nearby rebel-held suburbs in an attempt to force the extremists to surrender or to evacuate the district, state media reported.

The area in southern Damascus is the last part of the capital not controlled by President Bashar Assad's forces. Other insurgents in the area, including an al-Qaida-linked group, have said they would relocate to rebel-held regions in northern Syria.

State-run al-Ikhabariya TV said the government hopes to isolate ISIS in the Hajar al-Aswad neighborhood. The TV station showed thick, gray smoke billowing from the neighborhood as government forces pounded it with artillery and airstrikes. Damascus residents said the sound of explosions echoed across the capital.

The TV agency said ISIS snipers targeted journalists covering the fighting but did not say whether anyone was hurt.

Hundreds of ISIS militants are holed up in Hajar al-Aswad and Yarmouk, a Palestinian refugee camp that resembles a built-up residential neighborhood. Rebels from other factions hold the nearby suburbs of Yalda, Babilah

and Beit Sahem.

ISIS agreed to give up its last pocket of Damascus on Friday but has yet to begin surrendering to government forces and relocating to ISIS-held areas elsewhere in the country.

ISIS said in a statement that the government had launched 400 airstrikes on Hajar al-Aswad and Yarmouk, destroying large parts of the neighborhoods. It claimed to have killed more than three dozen government forces, but there was no independent confirmation, and the extremist group often exaggerates such figures.

The U.N. said that since the fighting began last week, most of the 6,000 civilians in Yarmouk camp have been forcibly displaced to the neighboring suburb of Yalda.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said 11 people have been killed in the offensive since the fighting began last Thursday.

Government forces have escalated their campaign to retake all remaining enclaves in the capital and surrounding areas. The ISIS-held areas in southern Damascus are the last holdouts after rebels evacuated the eastern Ghouta suburbs following a fierce government offensive and a suspected poison gas attack in the town of Douma.



SANA/AP

Smoke rises Sunday after Syrian government airstrikes and shelling hit the Hajar al-Aswad neighborhood, held by Islamic State militants, in southern Damascus, Syria.



RAHMAT GUL/AP

Afghans offer prayers Monday over the body of a civilian killed in Sunday's deadly suicide attack at a voter registration center in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Afghan officials say Taliban attacks kill 14 troops, police

By RAHIM FAIEZ
AND AMIR SHAH
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Taliban attacks in western Afghanistan killed 14 soldiers and policemen on Monday as Kabul residents prepared to bury their loved ones slain in a horrific bombing by Islamic State that targeted a voter registration center the day before, killing 57.

Prayer services were held for the Kabul victims as families of those killed in Sunday's bombing carried the bodies of their kin and dug the graves at a cemetery in the hills above the Afghan capital.

The first of Monday's nearly simultaneous attacks in western Badghis province hit army units in the district of Ab Kamari, killing nine soldiers, said Ghulam Sarwar Haidari, the deputy provincial police chief.

Moments later, another large

group of insurgents struck police in Qadis district, killing five policemen.

Sharafuddin Majidi, spokesman for the provincial governor, confirmed the casualty tolls. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed the Badghis attacks in a statement to the media.

The attacks came on the heels of Sunday's suicide blast in Kabul. The staggering casualty toll — 57 dead and 119 wounded — underscored the struggles the government faces to rein in militant assaults even in large and well-protected urban centers.

Afghan security forces have struggled to prevent a recent surge in attacks by the local ISIS affiliate as well as the more firmly established Taliban. The attacks increased after the U.S. and NATO concluded their combat mission in Afghanistan at the end of 2014.

Both groups regularly carry out attacks, with the Taliban usually

targeting the government and security forces and ISIS targeting the country's Shiite minority.

In violence elsewhere in Afghanistan, four policemen were killed and three were wounded on Monday in a Taliban attack in western Farah province, in Bala Buluk district, according to Mohammad Naser Mehri, spokesman for the provincial governor.

Three Taliban fighters were killed and two others were wounded in the gunbattle there that lasted two hours, Mehri said.

In eastern Nangarhar province's Chaparhar district, militants killed three university students on Sunday, said Attaullah Khogyani, the governor's spokesman. The three were brothers, he added.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the killing, but Khogyani blamed ISIS, which has been active in Chaparhar and repeatedly has claimed attacks in the district.

Saudi-led airstrike at Yemeni wedding kills at least 20

By AHMED AL-HAJ
Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — An airstrike by the Saudi-led coalition hit a wedding party in northern Yemen, killing at least 20 people, health officials said Monday, as harrowing images emerged on social media of the deadly bombing, the third to hit Yemeni civilians since the weekend.

Khaled al-Nadhri, the top health official in the northern province of Hajjah, told The Associated Press that most of the dead were women and children who were gathered in one of the tents set up for

the wedding party in the district of Bani Qays. He said the bride also was among the dead.

Hospital chief Mohammed al-Sawmali said the groom and 45 of the wounded were brought to the local al-Jomhuri hospital. Health authorities appealed for people to donate blood.

Ali Nasser al-Azib, deputy head of the hospital, said 30 children were among the wounded, some in critical condition with shrapnel wounds and severed limbs.

Footage that emerged from the scene of the airstrike shows scattered body parts and a young boy in a green shirt hugging a

man's lifeless body, screaming and crying.

Health Ministry spokesman Abdel-Hakim al-Kahlan said ambulances were initially unable to reach the site of the bombing for fear of subsequent airstrikes as the jets continued to fly overhead after the initial strike.

This was the third deadly airstrike in Yemen since the weekend. Another airstrike on Sunday night hit a house elsewhere in Hajjah, killing a family of five, according to al-Nadhri.

On Saturday, at least 20 civilians were killed in an airstrike by the Saudi-led coalition after fighter jets bombed a bus carry-

ing commuters near the war-torn district of Mowza in western Yemen, near the city of Taiz, which has been locked in fighting for three years.

The Saudi-led coalition declined to comment on the strikes when reached by the AP. The coalition has been waging a war on Yemen's Shiite rebels known as Houthis, who control much of the north and the capital, Sanaa, to restore the internationally recognized government to power.

According to the independent monitor Yemen Data Project, a third of the 16,847 airstrikes since the war started have hit nonmilitary targets.

MILITARY

USAF targets arming F-15 with a laser by 2021

By **BARRIE BARBER**

Dayton (Ohio) Daily News

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE — The Air Force has targeted arming an F-15 fighter jet with a laser by 2021, one of what could become a wider use of directed-energy weapons for everything from aerial refueling tankers to military bases, a leading researcher says.

Facing increased competition from Russia and China, the Air Force launched an office at Wright-Patterson to explore experimental technologies and bring them to the battlefield faster, according to Thomas A. Lockhart, director of the Strategic Development Planning and Experimentation Directorate.

"We're trying to push technology faster, grab it and give it to our warfighter," Lockhart said.

The Wright-Patterson experimentation directorate was meant to make it easier to bridge the "valley of death" to bring new technologies out of the lab and into the field, Lockhart said. "The purpose of this office is to kind of blend with the acquisition community and our (science and technology) community so we can do acquisitions a lot quicker," he said.

One of its key priorities is an expanding use of lasers both on the ground and in the skies.

Air Force researchers also have aimed to test a laser on what likely to be an aerial refueling tanker by 2021, he said. Air Force Special Operations Forces have shown a growing interest in arming an AC-130 with an air-to-ground laser, and the defense industry has been asked for proposals to using lasers and high-powered microwave beams to protect military bases, Lockhart said.

A directorate experiment to show how



JENNIFER SHURAB/Courtesy of the U.S. National Guard

U.S. Air Force F-15C maintainers prepare the jets for a routine training mission at Kinsley Field in Klamath Falls, Ore., on Friday. The Air Force plans to arm an F-15 with a laser by 2021.

directed-energy weapons could guard military installations will launch this fall at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

But two big technical challenges are yet to be proven: generating enough power in a miniaturized laser to shoot down or disable a target and aiming the weapon through changing atmospheric conditions, Lockhart said.

Richard J. Mason, a Rand Corp. senior engineer in Santa Monica, Calif., said lasers won't replace missiles or guns anytime soon but could add to the firepower of an aircraft.

"If your expectations for the laser are too high, you'll be disappointed," he said. "It's not going to replace the gun... but there are certain things that it could do well."

He's cautiously optimistic because of a revolution in electric-powered lasers after "decades upon decades" of promised laser weapons.

"Lasers are good for hitting small, fast things," he said. "We don't currently shoot air-to-air missiles out of the sky and maybe we could with a laser weapon so it's opening up a new capability."

The Air Force Special Operations Com-

mand has explored putting an air-to-ground laser on an AC-130 aircraft. A laser could potentially be quieter, target more precisely and avoid collateral damage compared with heavy machine guns and bombs, said Mason, who studied the issue for the service branch.

"They don't want the noise; they don't want the collateral damage," he said.

Richard Aboulafia, a senior aerospace analyst with the Teal Group in Fairfax, Va., said lasers are on the horizon but it will take time.

"We'll see the use of (lasers) as on board weapons eventually, but as with all new technologies it will take longer than expected," he said in an email.

"The good news is of course they provide weight savings," don't run out of ammunition as conventional weapons like missiles "and they have potentially impressive range capabilities."

"They may also serve a valuable defensive role against incoming missiles and drones," he added. "But they do use a lot of energy, and heat generation may be an obstacle too."

The Air Force Research Laboratory reached a \$26.3 million deal with Lockheed Martin to develop an airborne laser pod for the fighter jet test, part of an initiative called Self-Protect High Energy Laser Demonstration, or SHIELD.

The Navy has tested a laser on a warship in the Persian Gulf to defend against drones and small boats, with plans to expand the directed-energy weapons use in the fleet in the next decade, media reports say.

The Army has eyed 2023 as a target date to field a laser, reports say.



PATRICK ENRIGHT/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Incoming midshipmen participate in the Oath of Office Ceremony during induction day at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., in 2017.

Naval Academy official urges 3 midshipmen's dismissal for drugs

The *Capital*

The superintendent of the Naval Academy has recommended dis-enrolling three midshipmen from the school for using illegal drugs, spokesman Cmdr. David McKinney said in a statement last week.

The academy announced five students would be disciplined for allegedly using cocaine, mushrooms, ketamine and ecstasy in March.

Another four are being disciplined for failing to report the behavior.

The Naval Criminal Investigation Service's investigation into the alleged drug use continues, McKinney said. The investigation has been underway since late November when two midshipmen reported the alleged drug use.

"Military justice options remain available after the full NCIS investigation has concluded," he said.

Vice Adm. Ted Carter made the recommendation as part of the administrative disciplinary process, McKinney said.

82nd Airborne takes 'Best Mortar' title

By **DREW BROOKS**

The *Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer*

The Army's inaugural Best Mortar Competition pit seven four-man teams against each other to find the best of the best this month.

But members of the 82nd Airborne Division team — which led from start to finish in the three-day competition — never felt like their team was limited to four soldiers.

Instead, Staff Sgt. James Pennington, Sgt. Ryan Mosser, Cpl. Jacob Nolan and Cpl. Alec Norton said they had more than 17,000 All American paratroopers behind them.

"We didn't want to let ourselves down, and we didn't want to let our division down," Pennington said.

The 82nd Airborne Division team, hailing from 1st Battalion, 50th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, brought the Best Mortar trophy back to Fort Bragg last week after edging teams from the 75th Ranger Regiment, which placed second, and the 101st Airborne Division, which placed third.

In winning the competition at Fort Benning, Ga., the 82nd Airborne team also fulfilled lofty goals they placed on themselves

after a strong showing during a pilot competition last year.

All American teams placed first and third in that event, the soldiers said. This year's team was a combination of those teams.

"We wanted to go back and take it by storm," Pennington said. "Our goal wasn't just to win; it was to dominate."

The competition included a variety of physical fitness events; mortar-specific tasks designed to test tactics, techniques and procedures; live-fire ranges with a 60mm mortar system, M-4 and M-240B; obstacle course; and confidence course.

Mosser said the competition wasn't easy. It tested the soldiers physically and technically and provided them little time to rest.

"They attempted to demoralize us," he said. "But it never happened."

Sometimes operating on little sleep, the soldiers said they leaned on each other to push through.

And they found motivation in the support they received from their leaders at Fort Bragg, including senior leaders who traveled to Fort Benning to cheer them on.

"It was a notable morale boost," Pennington said.

But the support also brought added pressure.

"We train to win. We expect to win. Not only for ourselves, but others expect the same," Nolan said.

He said the team worked well together, adapting to individual strengths and weaknesses. That was despite not being able to train as a team for very long ahead of the competition.

Officials said the 82nd Airborne Division team had a 12-week training program to prepare for the event. But because the 3rd Brigade Combat Team is on the Global Response Force mission, they had to condense the training to two weeks.

The Global Response Force is tasked with deploying anywhere in the world on short notice. Pennington said that readiness posture helped the soldiers overcome the shortened timeline and set them up for success.

The soldiers said they now aim to start a tradition of dominance in the Best Mortar Competition. Pennington promised the 82nd Airborne Division would work twice as hard next year in an attempt to keep the Best Mortar title.

"If they want it," he said of other units, "they're going to have to bring it."

PACIFIC

'Commitment that inspires'

Officers reflect on impact of war correspondent Ernie Pyle

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

IE SHIMA, Okinawa — Navy Capt. Robert Mathewson Jr. didn't know much about famed World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle before being asked to speak during a memorial service Sunday at the spot where Pyle was felled by a Japanese bullet.

As memories of the war fade, so, too, have recollections of Pyle's importance and impact. He was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for chronicling the average American soldiers in foxholes across Europe. His "letters home" reached more than 14 million households and were read avidly by President Harry Truman, Eleanor Roosevelt and members of a grateful nation, who often prayed for him as they did their own sons.

Pyle was mourned nationwide at his death and was awarded a posthumous Purple Heart, a rare honor for a civilian.

Since 1952, when Okinawa's American Legion Post 28 began hosting memorial services for Pyle, the number of attendees has dwindled to a couple of dozen, mostly Boy Scouts and Marines. There is no longer a color guard, nor a firing party made up of uniformed soldiers wearing shiny, ceremonial helmets.

The number of flowers that once flooded the monument built on Ie Island in Pyle's honor has dwindled, and the number of attendees familiar with his work also has dropped sharply.

Yet Mathewson — a decorated

combat veteran who commands Okinawa Naval Base — said Pyle's dedication to the average soldier must live on.

"He didn't just write about American soldiers to the public; he brought them to life," he said. "It is this commitment that inspires me to be better as I lead and care for our current generation of fighters."

Mathewson read from one of Pyle's most famous works, "The Death of Captain Waskow," and recounted how Pyle had advocated for "fight pay" in one of his columns, something Congress then granted.

"As a commander and an officer, I have no higher priority than my sailors," Mathewson said. "Preparing for this speech and learning about the infantry's friend, Ernie Pyle, has made me take pause and look more closely at the individual faces in my command."

"Our Navy's strength is in the individual sailor — whether it's a master at arms coming off a 12-hour shift or our young surface warfare officer in her sixth month at sea. They deserve leadership who sees them as Pyle did, as brave Americans with a story to tell. I am renewed in my commitment to serve my sailors, to fight for them and to hear them."

'Soldier's best friend'

Pyle was born Aug. 3, 1900, near Dana, Ind. After graduating high school, he joined the Navy Reserve just in time to see the final months of World War I.



Lance Cpl. Nicholas Turner, of the III Marine Expeditionary Force, plays taps Sunday during the 73rd annual memorial ceremony honoring famed war correspondent Ernie Pyle on Okinawa, Japan.



PHOTOS BY MATT BURKE/Stars and Stripes

Capt. Robert Mathewson Jr., left, the Okinawa Naval Base commander, and Brad Reeves, the American Legion Post 28 vice commander, lay flowers Sunday at the Ernie Pyle memorial on Ie Shima, Okinawa.

Pyle studied journalism at Indiana University, and later won acclaim writing daily feature columns as a war correspondent for Scripps-Howard newspapers. As his profile grew, his work was featured in a growing number of newspapers, including Stars and Stripes.

Pyle traveled to London in 1940 to report on the German bombings known as the "Blitz." It wasn't long before he joined the American troops stationed there. He covered the war in North Africa, Italy, and Normandy, France.

He was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1944 for his coverage of the war in Europe.

After a short break, Pyle volunteered to cover the Pacific campaign. He linked up with the 77th Infantry Division as it bore down on Okinawa, Japan. He was riding in a jeep to a forward command post during the battle for Ie Shima with Army Lt. Col. Joseph Coolidge when the jeep was fired upon by a Japanese machine gun from a ridge above.

"We all jumped out of the jeep and dove into a roadside ditch," Coolidge told The Associated Press. "A little later, Pyle and I raised up to look around. Another burst hit the road over our heads and I fell back into the ditch. I looked at Ernie and saw he had been hit. He was killed almost instantly, the bullet entering his left temple just under his helmet."

Pyle was buried near where he fell. His body later was moved to Okinawa's main island and then to his final resting place beside the soldiers he covered at Hawaii's National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as "the Punchbowl."

The monument erected where he was killed reads: "At this spot the 77th Infantry Division lost a buddy, Ernie Pyle, 18 April 1945." Legion Post 28 leases the site and maintains the memorial with the help of Marines stationed on the island.

Ernie Pyle was known throughout the world as the "GI journalist" and "soldier's best

friend," said Post 28 commander Charles Cathey. "Now that you know just a little bit about this great man, you can understand why we are here today, paying our respects to our comrade in arms."

'Understanding our stories'

Marine 1st Lt. Christine Baldridge said she hadn't known about Pyle before she became Ie Shima training facility officer in charge earlier this year, but after learning about his contributions to the troops during World War II and his importance, she brought the Marines under her command out to the memorial to learn about him.

"We can't fight the fight without having a support base at home, without people actually truly understanding our stories out here abroad," said Baldridge, 26, from San Jose, Calif.

"So having a ceremony like this to give our appreciation for his sacrifice and what he did so that way he could bring the story of the troops on the ground back home to help build that support, to get the truth, it's something that we need out here as far as morale goes, as well to help us push forward."

"He could have sat in a cushy office back at home, kind of getting the story from afar, but he chose to be out here with the troops," she said.

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NATION

Survivors of plane crashes grapple with flying again

By DEE-ANN DURBIN
Associated Press

Hundreds of hands grapple with oxygen masks. Flight attendants warning passengers to brace for impact. The plane hurtling toward the unforgiving ground.

Survivors of air accidents often proclaim that their survival was a miracle. But what follows is another kind of miracle: Many survivors manage to get past the horror and onto planes again.

How do they do it?

It's a question facing survivors of last week's Southwest Airlines accident, which killed one woman who was sucked partway out of the plane after the engine exploded and shattered a window.

Authorities said 148 passengers walked away, underscoring an important point: Plane crashes are rare, but when they happen, people often survive them. Between 1983 and 2000, 95.7 percent of people involved in commercial airline accidents survived, according to government data. In 2013, 304 of the 307 passengers survived an Asiana

Airlines crash in San Francisco. And the horrific 1989 crash of a United Airlines flight in Sioux City, Iowa, had 185 survivors.

For guidance, survivors of Southwest Flight 1380 might look to those others who have survived air disasters. Some of them say it's critical to get back in the air quickly; they suggest counseling, prayer and even calming apps. But others never get over the fear.

Dave Sanderson was the last passenger to exit US Airways Flight 1549 after its emergency landing in the Hudson River in January 2009. He spent one night recovering from hypothermia at a New York hospital. The next day he had to make a decision: Could he fly back home to North Carolina?

Sanderson steeled himself; flying was the fastest way home. When he arrived at the gate, the captain and first officer got off the plane, listened to his story and reassured him. A flight attendant cleared a row of seats for him.

"If you don't get back immediately, you may never get back on that plane," said Sanderson, who

now travels around the country giving inspirational speeches.

Sanderson makes it a habit to talk to the crew when he boards a plane. He also learns about the plane, including the exit strategy and what kind of doors it has.

Others lean on faith. Helen Young Hayes survived the crash of United Flight 232 in Sioux City which killed 111 people. Hayes, a lifelong Catholic, closed her eyes and prayed as the plane went down; later, as she recovered from her burns, she thought a lot about why her life was spared.

Hayes started flying again about two months after the crash, confident that God would hold her whatever the outcome of the flight. She has since flown more than 1 million miles.

Hayes said survivors need to take time to heal. Their bodies will never forget, she said. Every time she hits turbulence, she remembers what it felt like when the plane went down. But she also sees the crash as a gift that helped her find a higher purpose for her life.

Jennifer Stansberry Miller, a



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

The wreckage of Asiana Flight 214 sits on a runway at San Francisco International Airport after it crashed on July 6, 2013. Of the 307 passengers aboard the flight, 304 survived.

clinical social worker and crisis consultant, has been an advocate for survivors since her brother died in a plane crash in 1994. She said every survivor must find his or her own way. Some have trouble eating and sleeping and may need professional guidance. Others use apps that talk passengers through flying or forecast the amount of turbulence they might encounter.

Others take classes at airports that help people master their fears. Milwaukee's Mitchell Airport offers a \$200, five-session class that culminates with a short commercial flight.

Some survivors can't bring themselves to fly again. In 2008, drummer Travis Barker, of the band Blink-182, was involved in a

small plane crash that killed four of the six people aboard. Eight years later, when his band toured Europe, Barker was still unable to fly. He crossed the Atlantic on the Queen Mary 2 cruise ship.

Eric Zilbert, who was aboard last week's Southwest flight, said the experience has been most difficult for his wife, who had to deal with the thought of almost losing him. On future flights, he said, he'll look more closely at the plane's equipment and choose seats in front of the wing.

Zilbert, a statistician, said he knows it's unlikely that another plane he boards will ever experience a similar emergency. He and his mother even flew home after the accident.

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NATION

Waffle House shooting suspect still on run

By SHEILA BURKE
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A man suspected in the slayings of four people at a Waffle House restaurant on the run Monday, and authorities said he may be armed with one of the guns seized from him last year after he tried to enter the White House to see President Donald Trump.

More than 80 Nashville police officers continued to search for Travis Reinking, joined by agents with the FBI, the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and troopers with the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Reinking was wearing only a green jacket when he opened fire with an AR-15 in the Waffle House parking lot and then stormed the restaurant, police say. Four people were killed and four others were injured before a quick-thinking customer wrestled the assault weapon away, preventing more bloodshed.

Metropolitan Nashville Police Chief Steve Anderson said at a news conference that Reinking, 29, was last seen Sunday in a wooded area near an apartment complex where he lived, wearing only pants and no shirt or shoes.

Anderson said it's not clear why Reinking opened fire on restaurant patrons, though he may have "mental issues."

He may still be armed, Anderson said, because he was known to have owned a handgun who authorities have not recovered.

"He's on foot," Anderson said. "Unless he's been picked up by a car, he would be fairly close. But he won't want to alarm people, but certainly, everybody should take precautions. It could be he's in an unoccupied house. We want everybody to be concerned. Neighbors should check on each other."

Nashville public schools will go into "lock-out" mode if Reinking is not found in time for class Monday, officials said. That means students will be free to move about the building, but no guests or visitors will be allowed to enter.

As the search continued, authorities in Illinois shared past reports suggesting multiple red flags about a disturbed, young man with paranoid delusions.

In May 2016, Reinking told deputies from Tazewell County, Ill., that music superstar Taylor Swift was stalking him and hacking his phone, and that his family also was involved, according to a report released Sunday.

Another sheriff's report said Reinking barged into a communi-

ty pool in Tremont, Ill., last June, and jumped into the water wearing a pink woman's coat over his underwear. Investigators believed he had an AR-15 rifle in his car trunk, but it was never displayed. No charges were filed.

Last July, Reinking was arrested by the U.S. Secret Service after he crossed into a restricted area near the White House and refused to leave, saying he wanted to meet Trump. Reinking was not armed at the time, but at the FBI's request, state police in Illinois revoked his state firearms card and seized four guns from him, authorities said.

The AR-15 used in the shootings was among the firearms seized.

Then, in August, Reinking told police he wanted to file a report about 20 to 30 people tapping into his computer and phone and people "barking like dogs" outside his residence, according to a report.

Reinking agreed to go to a local hospital for an evaluation after repeatedly resisting the request, the report said.

"There's certainly evidence that there's some sort of mental health issues involved," Tazewell County Sheriff Robert Huston said. But he said deputies returned the guns to Reinking's father on the promise that he would "keep the weapons secure and out of the possession of Travis."

Nashville Police spokesman Don Aaron said that Reinking's father "has now acknowledged giving them back" to his son.

After the shooting, the police recovered three of the four guns originally taken from Reinking, officials said. They believe he still has at least one handgun.

Phone calls to a number listed for the father, Jeffrey Reinking, went unanswered.

Police said Reinking drove into the Waffle House parking lot in his gold Chevy Silverado pickup early Sunday and sat there for about four minutes before opening fire outside the restaurant.

The victims fatally shot in the parking have been identified as Taurian Sanderlin, 29, of Goodlettsville, and Joe Perez, 20, of Nashville.

Sanderlin was an employee at the restaurant.

Reinking then went inside the restaurant and opened fire, police said.

One of the fatally wounded inside was DeEbony Groves, 21, a student at Nashville's Belmont University. She was remembered as an exceptional student who made the dean's list, and a tenacious basketball player.

Akilah Desiva, 23, also was killed inside the restaurant. The Antioch resident was a rap artist and music video producer.



Wade Payne, The (Nashville) Tennessean/AP

James Shaw, right, gets a hug Sunday from Waffle House CEO Walt Elmer during a news conference on the Waffle House shooting in Nashville, Tenn. Shaw wrestled the gun from the suspect.

Man who snatched AR-15 from gunman: 'It was life or death'

By SHEILA BURKE
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The man who snatched an AR-15 rifle from a gunman at a busy Tennessee restaurant says his was a "selfish" act of self-preservation and he doesn't consider himself a hero. Never mind that he is being credited with saving several other lives.

"When I grabbed the barrel of the weapon it was hot, but I didn't care. It was life or death," said James Shaw Jr., 29, a Nashville resident who found himself wrestling with the suspect after four people already had been shot fatally at a Waffle House bustling with wee-hour patrons early Sunday in Nashville.

Shaw joined law enforcement officials and Nashville's mayor at a news conference Sunday, some 12 hours after the shooting, his right hand bandaged. There he was singled out by Waffle House CEO Walter Elmer, who was present and thanked Shaw for his bravery.

"You don't get to meet too many heroes in life," Elmer said before addressing Shaw, who dabbed at tears in his eyes. "We are forever in your debt."

Shaw said that after going to a nightclub, he had decided to stop with a friend early Sunday at a

Waffle House. But the first one he visited was too crowded with overnight patrons, so he ended up going to another in Nashville.

As he entered the Waffle House, he was just two minutes ahead of the gunman, seating himself at a counter.

Suddenly he heard a loud noise, thinking at first that freshly washed plates had crashed from a stack in the restaurant. Then, he said, he saw restaurant workers running and turned and saw a body near the front door as the gunman burst in.

It was then that he realized he was hearing gunshots.

"I looked back and I saw a person lying on the ground right at the entrance of the door, then I jumped and slid ... I went behind a push door — a swivel door," Shaw said. "He shot through that door; I'm pretty sure he grazed my arm. At that time, I made up my mind ... that he was going to have to work to kill me. When the gun jammed or whatever happened, I hit him with the swivel door."

Shaw said it was then that they began wrestling, ignoring his own pain as he grabbed the hot barrel of the AR-15 weapon. On Sunday afternoon, his right hand was bandaged from the encounter.

"He was kind of cussing while we were wrestling around. When

I finally got the gun, he was cussing like I was in the wrong," he said. "It wasn't any kind of talking between us; I just knew I just had to get that away from him."

Of the gun, he added, "I grabbed it from him and threw it over the countertop and I just took him with me out the entrance."

Shaw said after getting the man out of the Waffle House, he then ran one way and saw the suspect, naked save for a jacket, going another way.

Shaw said he had an apparent bullet graze on one elbow and fell and hit his knee as he escaped, landing in the hospital for a time early Sunday.

"I didn't really fight that man to save everyone else. That may not be a popular thing," said Shaw, a Nashville native who went to college in Tennessee and now works as a wireless technician. "I took the gun so I could get myself out" of the situation.

He said he was glad others were saved.

When Shaw's father went to visit him in the hospital early Sunday before he was released, he had one piece of advice for his son: "Don't do that again."

"I take no pride in him charging a loaded gun," James Shaw Sr. said. "I do take pride in him helping save the lives of other people."



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NATION

AP poll finds most Americans back raises for teachers

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans overwhelmingly believe teachers don't make enough money, and half say they'd support paying higher taxes to give educators a raise.

The findings of the new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research come amid recent teacher strikes and other protests over low pay, tough classroom conditions and the amount of money allocated to public schools in several Republican-led states.

Tens of thousands of Arizona teachers voted last week to strike after rejecting an offer of a 20 percent raise because it didn't include a vow from state lawmakers not to further cut taxes before providing more money for the state's schools.

"To educate children and barely get a living is obnoxious," said Elaine Penman, a company manager in Tucson, Ariz., who added she and others went outside to their protesting teachers who were marching by.

She's among the 50 percent of Americans who say they'd pay a higher tax bill if it meant more money for teachers.

"I'm a parent, and I benefit directly from what teachers do," said Penman, who has two children in traditional public schools and one in a charter school.

In 2016-17, the average salary for a public school teacher was \$58,950, down slightly from the previous year, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

Overall, 78 percent of Americans said that's not enough. Just 15 percent think teachers are paid the right amount, while 6 percent think they're paid too much. In a 2010 AP-Stanford poll, 57 percent of Americans said they thought

teachers are paid too little.

Americans in states with the lowest average teacher salaries — less than \$50,000 a year — were slightly more likely to think teachers were paid too little and that the national average should be an important factor in determining salaries.

The AP-NORC poll found that parents and those without children are about equally likely to think teachers are paid too little. It's a sentiment that crosses party lines, too. Nearly 9 in 10 Democrats, 78 percent of independents and 66 percent of Republicans think teacher salaries are too low.

Slightly more than half of Americans — 52 percent — also approve of teachers leaving the classroom to strike in their search for higher pay, while 25 percent disapprove. Among those who say they've heard about the recent teacher protests, 80 percent say they approve of such tactics.

The recent run of teacher protests began in March in West Virginia, where teachers won a raise after going on strike. The strategy soon spread to Oklahoma, Kentucky, Colorado and Arizona, where educators joined together online and have held increasingly frequent protests during the past six weeks.

The poll found 51 percent of Americans have been paying at least some attention to the protests. People living in states with the lowest teacher salaries were more likely to have heard about the protests than those in states with the highest teacher pay.

Americans believe state and local governments share responsibility with teachers and their unions for the disruptions caused by the strikes. Veritta Grimes, 68, of the District of Columbia, said teachers aren't making enough money for the work they do, and



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Teachers at Tuscano Elementary School stage a "walk-in" on April 11 for higher pay and school funding in Phoenix. Arizona teachers began to vote April 17 on whether to strike.

Districts cancel classes due to teacher protests

Associated Press

DENVER — More than a half-dozen Colorado school districts, including the three largest, are canceling classes or sending students home early because of planned teacher protests later this week.

Schools will be closed Thursday in Jefferson and Douglas counties in suburban Denver because so many teachers are expected to be at the state Capitol.

Classes won't be held the following day at several districts in northern Colorado because of another teacher demonstration. Denver Public Schools, the state's largest school district, will send students home early that day because of the number of teachers expected to attend an afternoon rally.

Some other districts also have previously scheduled days off that coincide with the planned protests so teachers from those districts could participate.

she supports them having the right to strike "even though kids are losing valuable teaching time."

But Caitlyn Scott, 27, of Kent, Ohio, said teachers are earning "about what they should," and she opposes strikes by teachers.

"I think they kind of committed to being there for the entire school year," she said.

Half of Americans would be willing to shoulder the cost of paying teachers more and providing more money to schools via higher taxes, with only 26 percent opposed. But while 69 percent of Democrats say yes to higher taxes

for schools, only 38 percent of Republicans and 30 percent of independents say the same.

People living in urban areas are more likely than those in rural areas to support such a tax increase, 57 to 40 percent.

Stephen White, a high school teacher in Marysville, Calif., said raising taxes is "probably the only way" to pay for teacher raises. "Look at states that cut taxes and some districts had to go to four-day school weeks."

That had happened in Oklahoma, where teachers staged a nine-day walkout earlier this month to protest the level of classroom

funding.

White said he used to be anti-union when he worked in the private sector but changed his position when he became a teacher. He said salaries don't take into account all teachers do, especially outside the normal school day.

The AP-NORC poll of 1,140 adults was conducted April 11-16 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.0 percentage points.

Woman fined for bringing apple through Customs

By ALEX HORTON

The Washington Post

An apple one day did not keep customs away, a Colorado woman has learned.

Crystal Tadlock was given an apple sealed in a wrapper on her Delta flight from Paris on Wednesday. She was not hungry at the time and figured it would be a good snack for her second leg back to Denver, she told FOX 31 in Denver.

Tadlock likely passed by numerous signs and alerts warning of items that Customs says must be declared at the port of entry in Minneapolis. That would include fresh fruit, Customs and Border Patrol says.

A random search brought Tadlock in contact with a Customs agent who found the contraband apple.

"He had asked me if my trip to France was expensive and I said, 'yeah.' I didn't really get

why he was asking that question, and then he said, 'It's about to get a lot more expensive after I charge you \$500,'" Tadlock told the station. She was then issued a \$500 citation and a revocation of her global entry status, she said.

That status is earned through a screening process and allows expedited clearance for international travelers.

Tadlock, who lives in the Denver suburb of Arvada, could not be reached for comment. It was not immediately clear when the incident occurred.

Delta would not comment publicly about Tadlock's case, but in a statement provided by spokesman Michael Thomas, the airline said it encourages its customers to "adhere to Customs and Border Protection policies and requirements."

In a statement, the CBP declined to speak

about the case details or any specific inspection, citing privacy policies. However, agency spokesman Steven Bausbach said "all agriculture items must be declared."

Tadlock told FOX 31 she was frustrated with the ordeal and pointed to the Delta logo on the wrapper, showing the fruit came from the airline.

"It's really unfortunate someone has to go through that and be treated like a criminal over a piece of fruit," Tadlock said.

An official with Delta told The Washington Post that food provided on the airplane "is given with intention you consume it on board." The official said there are no expectations this will lead to adjustments or reviews of perishable food items given to passengers.

Despite the apparent violation, Tadlock told the station she would fight to have the fine overturned.

US pulls diplomats' families in Nicaragua

WASHINGTON — The United States is shutting down routine operations at its embassy in Nicaragua and pulling out some of its employees amid deadly protests.

The State Department says it's raising the threat level for Nicaragua and encouraging Americans to reconsider plans to travel there.

Family members of U.S. diplomats who also work at the embassy are being ordered out of the country until security improves. The State Department says it's also allowing U.S. government officials posted to Nicaragua to leave "on a case-by-case basis."

The U.S. Embassy in Managua will stop providing services to the public except for emergencies or by phone.

From The Associated Press

NATION

Welding is both work and play for Ore. mom

By ALEX PAUL

Albany (Ore.) Democrat-Herald

ALBANY, Ore. — When Morgan Bledsoe's car broke down, the single mother of three decided she wanted to take a diesel technology course at Linn-Benton Community College to learn how to take care of such problems.

The course was full, so Bledsoe enrolled in a beginning welding technology class and found her calling.

"I loved it from the first day," Bledsoe said. "It's awesome."

The 2000 West Albany High graduate has since gone on to enjoy a career welding everything from structural steel building projects to sawmills and even a rock screen used on the TV show "Gold Rush."

For the last two years she has used her metal melting skills for Albany-based TEKfab, which fabricates machinery used in steel rollforming — such as making steel studs used in high-rise buildings, corner brackets used in dry walling, and roof flashing.

Bledsoe said she really latched on to welding when she started creating metal art.

While at LBCC, Bledsoe won a Skills USA contest and took 13th at the national contest held in Kansas City.

She has continued to enjoy the art side of her work, saying with a laugh, "I'm not the least bit girly."

When she isn't working at TEKfab, Bledsoe, 36, can be found in her home shop — which includes a small forge — crafting garden flowers out of metal and experimenting with art deco-like visual arts made from nuts, washers and other common materials.

Bledsoe said she realized while at LBCC that being a woman, she was going to be always be a minority among her co-workers, but she enjoys her work because "it requires so much fine tuning. We have to be on the spot and pretty."

Bledsoe said she can understand why more women may not enter the welding/fabrication field because, "You have to get into uncomfortable, sometimes funny positions and work upside down," she said. "Sometimes, you might even catch on fire."

Bledsoe is proficient with numerous types of welding and enjoys brazing with an oxy-acetylene torch. At work she works with short arc and flux core welding.

But Bledsoe said the positives of her job far outweigh the negatives.

Welders are in short supply nationwide, and wages can range from \$18 to more than \$30 per hour. Specialty welders can earn hundreds of dollars per hour.

"I get to be creative, and metal is forgiving," Bledsoe said. "I can cut it, heat it and bend it as needed. I can add color or take it away."

Bledsoe said she hopes to expand her art pieces to include wall hangings and someday, "create some big sculptures



PHOTOS BY AMANDA LOMAN, ALBANY (ORE.) DEMOCRAT-HERALD/AP

Welder Morgan Bledsoe uses a grinder to cut down metal pieces at the TEKfab facility in Albany, Ore., where she works

that would go into a museum."

She also sells some of her metal work and may be contacted on Facebook under Morgan Bledsoe.

Of her five children, Bledsoe said her daughter Odessa, 12, is the only one interested in welding so far.

"She loves it," Bledsoe said. "When I'm in the shop, she grabs her gloves and wants to help."

Bledsoe said TEKfab recently helped 26 area Boy Scouts earn their merit badges in welding.

"We spent the day with them and before they were done, they got to lay down some practice beads," Bledsoe said. "It was a lot of work, but it was also a lot of fun."

Bledsoe said her father always wanted her to be a lawyer.

"I absolutely love welding and would not want to be a lawyer for anything," Bledsoe said.

When she isn't at work or in her Crabtree shop making fire, Bledsoe can be found putting out fires as a volunteer with the Scio Fire District.

Although he has been with TEKfab only two months, Operations Manager Chris Sturges said he was "delighted to see a female on the fabrication floor."

"Morgan is definitely a valuable member of our team," Sturges said.

Although tens of thousands of women learned to weld during World War II and earned the nickname Rosie the Riveter, fu-



Morgan Bledsoe stands with several of her more creative welds.

ture generations of women were often locked out of high school industrial/vocational programs through the 1950s and 1960s. Now, only about 3 percent of professional welders are women.

But today, there is a huge demand nationwide for welders and fabricators.

According to the American Welding Society, the average age for welders in the United States is 54, and some 45 percent of the workforce is in their 50s or older.

There is a projected need for

more than 111,000 welders over the next five years.

The company is putting the finishing touches on a new 40,000-square-foot building at their main site on 29th in Albany. Sturges said Bledsoe has already set up her work area for efficiency and safety.

Founded in 2001 by Aaron Roth and Robert Taylor, Oregon State University engineering graduates, the company has 32 employees in Albany and three at a new plant in East Lake, Ohio.



Morgan Bledsoe won an award for her metal flower bouquet.



Flowers created by welder Morgan Bledsoe are displayed at the TEKfab facility.



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WORLD

32 Chinese tourists among dead in traffic accident in N. Korea

Associated Press

BEIJING — A traffic accident in North Korea has killed 32 Chinese tourists and four North Koreans, Chinese officials said Monday.

Two other Chinese tourists were badly injured and were in "acutely serious condition," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement. It said China had dispatched a medical team accompanied by diplomats to assist the North Korean side.

The accident occurred Sunday night in North Hwanghae province, south of Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, ministry spokesman Lu Kang said at a regularly scheduled news conference.

Footage on Chinese state broadcaster CCTV showed the mangled wreckage of a bus in the dark with rain falling. Rescue vehicles were on the scene, and the injured were shown being treated in a hospital.

China and North Korea share a lengthy border and a traditional friendship dating back to China's military intervention on the side of the North in the 1950-53 Korean War. China remains Pyongyang's largest trading partner, although commerce has dropped off by about 90 percent under

United Nations sanctions.

The ministry described the four North Koreans killed as "workers." North Korea requires that all visitors be accompanied by minders.

Other details on the backgrounds of those killed or injured and the circumstances of the accident were not disclosed immediately.

Chinese tourists make up the vast majority of visitors to North Korea, where they often pay homage at sites related to China's participation in the war.

Only about 5,000 Westerners visit the isolated, hard-line communist state each year. Americans have been banned from traveling to North Korea without special permission from the U.S. State Department since September amid concerns about the fate of those detained there in the past.

North Korean roads are often bumpy and poorly maintained. There is usually no lighting other than headlights at night, even on major roads outside the cities. Drivers tend to travel at whatever speed they feel is safe, making the roads even more dangerous, particularly when the weather is bad.



CCTV/AP

In this image taken from video Sunday by China's CCTV, a bus carrying Chinese and North Koreans is seen overturned after an accident in North Hwanghae province, south of Pyongyang, North Korea.



This courtroom sketch depicts Salah Abdeslam, second from right, and Sofiane Ayari, second from left, as they attend their trial in February at the Brussels Justice Palace in Brussels.

Paris attacks suspect gets 20 years in related case

Associated Press

BRUSSELS — A Belgian court on Monday found 2015 Paris attacks suspect Salah Abdeslam and an accomplice guilty of attempted murder over shots fired at police as they sought to avoid arrest in Brussels.

The court handed both Abdeslam, Europe's most wanted fugitive at the time, and Sofiane Ayari the maximum 20-year sentence.

It said the "terror character" was clearly established in the March 2016 shooting, four months after the Paris attacks that killed 130. Abdeslam was close to being arrested in a hideout when he and Ayari fled while another man sprayed gunfire at police and was killed. Three officers were wounded.

His lawyer, Sven Mary, said it remains to be seen whether Abdeslam will seek to appeal his

sentence. He has 30 days to decide. Mary said it is unclear whether Abdeslam had fired shots at officers trying to break into the hideout.

"If there is doubt, he should have been let go, it's that simple," Mary said.

Abdeslam attended the opening day of the trial in February but has refused to cooperate since. He is being held in a French prison. Ayari also was absent.

It is unclear when Abdeslam will face trial over the Paris attacks but it is expected to take several years.

The conclusion of the case at Brussels' ornate palace of justice took place amid tight security set up by the armed forces and



Abdeslam

police.

Ayari is a Tunisian who fought for Islamic State for a year before heading to Europe. By the time he and Abdeslam began hiding in the upstairs apartment in central Brussels, police had raided more than a dozen locations in Belgium with little to show for it.

On the afternoon of March 15, 2016, they battered down yet another door. This time, it was to the staccato of an assault rifle. An ISIS fighter opened fire on the officers, who had only service weapons, while Abdeslam and Ayari darted onto a rooftop, broke into a neighboring apartment and escaped, authorities said.

Three days after the shooting spree, Abdeslam was captured in Brussels. Four days after that, extremists struck in the Belgian capital, killing 32 people in bomb attacks at the airport and on the subway system.

South Korea halts propaganda before its summit with North

By HYUNG-JIN KIM

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea halted anti-North Korea propaganda broadcasts across their tense border on Monday as officials from the two Koreas met again to work out details of their leaders' upcoming talks, expected to focus on the North's nuclear program.

Seoul had been blasting propaganda messages and K-pop songs from border loudspeakers since the North's fourth nuclear test in early 2016. The North quickly matched the South's action with its own border broadcasts and launches of bal-

loons carrying anti-South Korea leaflets across the border.

South Korea turned off its broadcasts on Monday to ease military tensions and to establish an environment for peaceful talks, Seoul's Defense Ministry said in a statement. It said Seoul hopes the decision will lead to both sides stopping slander and propaganda activities.

Yonhap news agency, citing an unidentified government source, said that North Korea was believed to have turned off many of its propaganda broadcasts later Monday.

Yonhap earlier reported that some North

Korean broadcasts were heard sporadically in the South on Monday morning. South Korean defense officials said they couldn't immediately confirm the status of the North's broadcasts.

The move comes amid a recent thaw in animosities, with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un trying to reach out to Seoul and Washington after conducting his country's sixth and most powerful nuclear test and three long-range missile test launches last year.

Kim and South Korean President Moon Jae-in are to meet at the Korean border village of Panmunjom on Friday in the coun-

tries' third-ever summit talks. Kim is to hold separate talks with President Donald Trump in May or early June in what would be the first North Korea-U.S. summit.

On Monday, the two Koreas held a third round of working-level talks at Panmunjom and agreed to conduct a joint rehearsal of the summit, Moon's office said in a statement. It said the two sides agreed that Friday's summit will include a welcoming ceremony and a banquet dinner as well as a formal meeting between Moon and Kim.

The Koreans agreed last week to allow live television broadcasts for key parts of the summit.

SHIFTING GEARS



PHOTOS BY ROBERT DUFFER, CHICAGO TRIBUNE/TNS

Tesla Model 3 may be worth the wait

By ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

The Tesla Model 3 is the most hyped car since the days of the Model T. Since it was announced in June 2016, more than half a million people have deposited \$1,000 to reserve their Model 3 sight unseen, drive untested. But with deliveries to customers moving at horse-and-buggy pace, the hype has waned to skepticism.

The so-called electric vehicle for the masses didn't reach its first real-world customer until December 2017. New-to-Tesla owners who want the entry-level model will have to wait until the first quarter of 2019. At best.

With so many other affordable long-range electric vehicles coming to market, is the Model 3 worth waiting for?

To find out, we spent the afternoon in a Model 3 owned by a friend whose family owns a Model S.

For now, it comes only with rear-wheel-drive, the extended-range 310-mile-range 75 kWh battery pack (\$9,000) and the premium upgrade interior (\$5,000). That's a starting price of \$49,000.

For all intents and purposes, the 238-mile, \$36,620 Chevy Bolt available nationwide now is an electric vehicle for the masses, as is the 151-mile, \$29,990 Nissan Leaf.

At this point, the Model 3 might be less about Tesla CEO Elon Musk's vision of a sustainable future so we don't have to colonize Mars and more about if Tesla can become a mass production automaker that might, maybe, someday, be profitable.

Visually, the Model 3 looks like a mash-up version of the elegant Model S and the



The interior of the Tesla Model 3.

humpbackish Model X three-row crossover. Incidentally, as of this writing, Tesla started seeking parts bids for its next vehicle, a compact crossover known as the Model Y. If not for an old Ford trademark on the Model E name that forced Musk and Co. to call it the Model 3, the Tesla family line would have spelled S-E-X-Y. True story.

It looks good but doesn't have the same striking proportions as the Model S. It's as low to the ground, but since Model 3 is a foot shorter, it looks chubbier. Instead of retractable door handles, Model 3 uses cheaper chrome push-handles that are still flush with the body for improved aerodynamics.

The inside is where it distinguishes itself from the Model S and every other car on the road. There is no gauge cluster behind the steering wheel; there is nothing except a piece of open-pore wood trim extending from door to door. The speedometer, odometer, radio controls, steering wheel position button, side mirrors buttons, climate — everything — is housed in the 15-inch center screen. The screen has a horizontal instead of vertical orientation compared with the

17-inch screen in other Tesla models. On the left third of the screen is a static display for speed and other vehicle info. On the bottom are climate controls. In the center is everything else. It doesn't take long to get used to, but it's best to set mirrors and steering wheel position while stopped.

The cabin is Spartan in design, which makes for a good user experience. Even the steering wheel is relatively Spartan, with just a left and right roller ball control. But the dependence on the touch screen can be confusing for some functions, such as the windshield wiper control. The left stalk has a button for wiper fluid, but the wiper speed settings for weather outside of California are on the screen.

Other owners have had problems with the screen, which our friend best summarized as a "computer." And like a computer, sometimes a hard reset is in order. He had to reset it to get the 4G LTE network restarted so it would pair with his phone, which uses the Tesla app to condition the car, open the locks, and other vitals. If the smartphone is not functional, there is a credit-card-size "key" that will start the car. There is no key fob. So it goes in the technology age.

Despite having a steering-column mounted "gear" stick, there is a thick center console with deep storage areas and a clever phone charger under the screen. We prefer the open legroom of the Model S, which uses an oblique tray so the space under the dash is open from door to door.

Rear visibility is limited, but the panoramic windshield creates an open spaciousness. Rear-seat legroom is also limited, and there was room for no one behind our 6 foot, 3 inch owner. Cargo room is exceptional, however, thanks to the 60/40 split seats. But even with the Model 3's front

trunk, the Bolt has more vertical space and cubic volume.

The understated joy of any Tesla, however, is how well it drives. Even at more than half the price of the quickest Tesla, the Model 3 with the larger 75 kWh battery pack hits 60 mph in 5.1 seconds, according to Tesla. But in many forums and other automotive outlets, times of 4.6 seconds are common. Either way, the "shift"-less acceleration is a straight shot that pulls back the corners of your mouth into a smile. The low center of gravity, with the heavy battery pack under the floor between the axles, provides Porsche-like handling on turns. Steering can be firm up from comfort, to normal, to sport. The car is a blast to drive.

The concern as Tesla ramps up production of the Model 3 is its own success. The \$7,500 federal tax credit gets cut in half once an automaker sells 200,000 total EV units, before being phased out in half-year increments. Tesla will get there this year, as will GM and Nissan.

To people considering canceling their order because of quality concerns or general frustration, I would recommend holding on. The Bolt EV is a good, practical car, with great tech and crossover versatility. But the Model 3 is the best "affordable" electric vehicle on the market. It's a compelling option in the compact luxury space, regardless of powertrain. It's fun to drive and cutting-edge, and with over-the-air software updates it can be upgraded continuously from your home garage. It is the vehicle for the technological age, with glitches, production delays and early adopter pride. The Bolt is the safer play for sure, but when has safe ever been sexy?

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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Family: Surgeons left needle in baby's heart

FL ST. PETERSBURG — A family said surgeons at a Florida children's hospital left a needle in their baby's heart.

A doctor made the discovery about Amara Le's baby during a follow-up appointment. Le and her fiancé rushed baby Katelynn back to Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg but the surgeons said there was no needle. Ten days later, the couple said a different hospital found the needle in Katelynn's aorta.

All Children's told the Tampa Bay Times that needles have been left in two children since 2016.

All Children's settled out of court with the family for \$50,000.

'CHiPs' TV star Estrada donates police dog

ID ST. ANTHONY — Actor Erik Estrada donated a drug dog to an east Idaho police agency where he's a reserve police officer.

The Rexburg Standard Journal reported that the star from the 1970s motorcycle police TV series "CHiPs" donated a 3-year-old German Shepherd-Malinois narcotics dog named Mako to the St. Anthony Police Department.

Mako will work with Sgt. Greg Belew in searching for narcotics at local schools and assist nearby agencies as well as the Idaho State Police when requested.

St. Anthony Police Chief Allen Neff said the agency hasn't had a police dog because they cost up to \$15,000.

Estrada became a reserve officer with the agency in 2016.

Bomb-sniffing dog healing from infection

WA EVERETT — A Washington State Patrol bomb-sniffing dog is recovering after inhaling something that caused an internal infection that required an operation.

KING — Reported that Sonyi was possibly be ready to return to work in early May.

Trooper Scott Legler said Sonyi in January inhaled something that made him sick while working at the ferry docks in Snohomish County.

Legler said that caused an internal abscess, an infection and fluid in 5-year-old Sonyi's lungs that needed to be drained.

Emergency crews save ducks in storm drain

IL SHILOH — A group of ducklings that fell into a storm drain in southwestern Illinois are safe because emergency responders did not duck their duties.

The rescue happened outside Shiloh Middle School.

According to media reports, police arrived at the scene after someone at a nearby truck meet saw several ducklings fall into a storm drain.

Police officers along with firefighters from department in Shiloh and O'Fallon removed the grate and rescue the 11 ducklings.

THE CENSUS

300

The approximate weight in pounds of tomatoes that inmates at a prison in the Mississippi Delta pick each week. The state Department of Corrections resurfaced two greenhouses last year at Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman in an effort to rehabilitate inmates. Fifteen to 18 inmates spend about seven hours a day tending the plants. The harvest is expected to be about 8,000 pounds by the end of May. The tomatoes are used to feed inmates, and the department is considering selling some to outside vendors.



ANDY NELSON, THE (EUGENE, ORE.) REGISTER-GUARD/AP

Giving Earth a hand

Second-grader Harper Stiles puts his handprint on a mural with fellow students' prints during Earth Day activities at Adams Elementary School in Eugene, Ore., on Friday. The activities were part of a partnership of the school and the University of Oregon's Environmental Leadership Program. There were nine stations at which the students participated in activities such as understanding recycling practices, a solar oven, tent-building relay races, planting and weeding in the school's garden, and planting 13 trees near the school.

Nearly 50 stolen road signs found in home

GA FORSYTH — Deputies said \$4,000 worth of stolen street signs were recovered from a home in Georgia.

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office told news outlets in a statement that deputies executed a search warrant at the residence last week where they found 10 county road signs, 14 stop signs and 23 sign posts.

Sheriff's Lt. Lawson Bittick said Frankie D. Breeding, 39, was arrested and charged with theft by receiving stolen property.

Bittick said more than 70 signs with a total value of roughly \$11,000 have been stolen over the past two months.

Winds leave community buried in tumbleweeds

CA VICTORVILLE — High winds that raked Southern California left one com-

munity buried in tumbleweeds.

Residents of Victorville in the high desert northeast of Los Angeles had to call the city for help when tumbleweeds piled up last week.

Victorville spokeswoman Sue Jones told the Daily Press that as many as 150 homes were affected in a neighborhood that faces open desert.

Some homes had tumbleweeds piled as high as the second story. The city and San Bernardino County Fire Department sent crews to rake up the weeds and load them into trash trucks.

Woman uses billboard in search for kidney

MA LYNN — A Massachusetts woman who needs a new kidney has put up a billboard in search of a donor.

"Young mother needs a kidney blood type O," reads the billboard put up by Miranda LeBrasseur. The 42-year-old Lynn woman has been diabetic since she was 17

and suffers from a genetic kidney disease. The Daily Item reported that she put up the billboard after a January fundraiser because she is on a five- to six-year wait list for a new kidney.

The billboard will be up until Saturday.

2 women charged with assault in exorcism

SC COLUMBIA — Two sisters were accused of kidnapping a woman and assaulting her during an exorcism attempt.

Columbia police spokeswoman Jennifer Timmons said in a news release last week that Brittany Jones, 29, was charged with kidnapping and first-degree assault.

Her sister, Tiara Jones, 26, is wanted on the same charges.

Police said the sisters are accused of holding their 56-year-old neighbor against her will last month and of assaulting her with a cross because they thought she was possessed.

Restaurant restores historic neon sign

MO JOPLIN — One of the largest neon signs in Missouri has been restored after more than two decades.

The historic Wilder's Steakhouse sign in Joplin was taken down in February for restoration and returned in early April, the Joplin Globe reported.

Owners Mike and Marsha Pawlus received a federal grant last year through the Route 66 National Corridor Preservation Program for the restoration. Congress established the program in 2001 to preserve and protect Route 66's history.

The sign was first installed around 1950. The Pawluses bought the restaurant in 1996.

The restoration cost about \$43,000, with the grant covering about \$24,000, according to Marsha Pawlus. The owners paid the remainder through community donations and fundraisers.

From wire reports

FACES

Avicii: EDM label, COUNTRY HEART

Swedish DJ-producer leaves legacy of bridging disparate musical styles

By CHRIS RICHARDS
The Washington Post

APPRECIATION

Having witnessed Avicii perform for enormous crowds more than twice, the thing that always stood out about his splashy, concussive DJ sets were those mutant country songs. I still have a hard time believing they were real. The Swedish producer was one of the most recognizable babyfaces in the global EDM explosion, but two of his most distinctive cuts — “Wake Me Up” and “Hey Brother” — unexpectedly bent themselves in the direction of Nashville.

Will that be Avicii's legacy? The kid waving his glow sticks in the honky-tonk? It's a question we had to ask on April 20 when news broke that the 28-year-old DJ-producer had died. (The cause was not announced, but Avicii's reported struggles with acute pancreatitis — related to excessive drinking — forced him to quit touring in 2016.)

He wasn't the first club kid to go country. Once upon a time, the KLF invited Tammy Wynette to sing a song called “Justified and Ancient,” and in 1991, the British duo sent it up to No. 11 on the U.S. pop charts. But Avicii's music never seemed to be winking back at the KLF — it didn't seem to be having any kind of tangible dialogue with the history of music whatsoever.

Instead, the twang of the past and the contz of the future seemed to cancel each other out in these songs, allowing them to just hang there, outside of time. If anything, their popularity proves that we still don't know what we want the 21st century to feel like.

And they were popular, too. “Hey Brother,” a booming pledge of sibling fidelity with guest vocals from bluegrass veteran Dan Tyminski, made a surprise crossover to country radio in 2014, while “Wake Me Up,” sung by Aloe Blacc, peaked at No. 4 on the U.S. pop charts around the same time — his highest-charting hit. And if you'd never heard a soul singer perform a country ditty with a Swedish DJ, this was your chance.

When musicians build those kinds of bridges between genres, it's ultimately the listener's responsibility to cross them — but I still wonder how many of Avicii's listeners took that walk. Did “Wake Me Up” turn any Keith Urban fans on to Frankie Knuckles? Did “Hey Brother” introduce the children of the Electric Daisy Carnival to Platt and Scruggs?

Or did these songs simply make the world feel a little bit bigger than it did the day before? Maybe they did. Maybe that's enough.



Avicii in 2013
AP

It's a boy for royals

Associated Press

For Kate, the wait is over. The Duchess of Cambridge gave birth Monday to a healthy baby boy — a third child for Kate and Prince William and fifth in line to the British throne.

The couple's Kensington Palace office announced news of the birth around lunchtime, about five hours after the 36-year-old duchess and her husband traveled by car from their Kensington Palace home to the private Lindo Wing of St. Mary's Hospital in central London.

The palace said the baby prince was born at 11:01 a.m. and weighed eight pounds, seven ounces. Prince William was in attendance, and the palace said mother and child were doing well.

“The queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Cornwall, Prince Harry and members of both families have been informed and are delighted with the news,” the palace said in a statement.

Mixing tradition and modernity, the news was announced by the palace on Twitter and also proclaimed in the forecourt of Buckingham Palace through a framed notice perched on a golden easel.

The baby is a younger brother to 4-year-old Prince George and Princess Charlotte, who turns 3 next week. Both were born at the same hospital, as were William and his younger brother, Prince Harry.

The infant's name, which has been subject to a flurry of bets, hasn't been announced. Arthur and James are among bookmakers' favorites for the new prince, whose full title will be His Royal Highness, Prince (Name) of Cambridge.

Twain apologizes for Trump comment

On Sunday morning, the Guardian published a long profile of Shania Twain, timed to the country-pop superstar's new tour that will begin Thursday in Tacoma, Wash. In it, Canadian-born Twain revealed that if she had been eligible to vote in the 2016 presidential election, she would have supported Donald Trump.

“I would have voted for him because, even though he was offensive, he seemed honest,” said Twain, 52. “Do you want straight or polite? Not that you shouldn't be able to have both. If I were voting, I just don't want bull—. I would have voted for a feeling that it was transparent. And politics has a reputation of not being that, right?”

Her quote went viral on social media, and hours later, “Shania Twain” was trending worldwide on Twitter. Many were not pleased by her comments, and the hashtag #ShaniaTwainCancelled had hundreds of tweets.



Twain, the highest-selling solo female artist in country music history, apologized Sunday night after the backlash intensified. She called her answer to the Guardian “awkward” and said that she wished she had given it more context. Twain also emphasized that she does not endorse Trump.

Twain emphasized inclusivity and that she is “passionately against discrimination” because many were discouraged to see someone considered an LGBT-friendly artist say they would vote for Trump, who supported a ban on transgender people serving in the military, among other policies.

From The Washington Post

‘Quiet Place’ the top movie in its third week

From wire reports

“A Quiet Place” has hardly been a silent success. With an additional \$22 million in ticket sales over the weekend, the horror film directed by John Krasinski has snatched the No. 1 spot once again in its third week of release. Meanwhile, the STX comedy “I Feel Pretty” starring Amy Schumer performed slightly better than expected with \$16 million.

“A Quiet Place,” about a family that has to stay quiet to survive a monster-filled world, managed to dethrone “Rampage,” which stars Dwayne Johnson as a primatologist. The action-adventure movie earned an additional \$21 million in sales taking it to second place and bringing its total to \$66.6 million.

Of the weekend's new releases, “I Feel Pretty” managed to exceed expectations of \$13 million to \$15 million. Still, the comedy performed poorly in comparison with Schumer's first two films: “Trainwreck,” which brought in \$30 million its opening weekend, and “Snatched,” which earned \$19.5 million its first weekend.

The new release “Super Troopers 2” finished fourth with \$14.7 million in ticket sales, and “Blumhouse's Truth or Dare” came in at No. 5 in its second week.

Verne Troyer, aka ‘Mini-Me,’ dies

Verne Troyer, who played Dr. Evil's small, silent sidekick “Mini-Me” in “Austin Powers” movie franchise, died April 21. He was 49.

No cause of death was given, but a statement from his representatives describes Troyer as a “fighter” who was unable to overcome a recent bout of adversity, then goes on to discuss depression and suicide.

Troyer became a celebrity and pop-culture phenomenon after starring as the tiny Mike Myers as “Mini-Me,” the tiny, hairless clone of villain Dr. Evil in two of the three “Austin Powers” films.

Other news

■ Actress Allison Mack, best known for her role on TV's “Smallville,” pleaded not guilty April 20 to sex trafficking. Prosecutors said Mack, 35, helped recruit women for leader Keith Raniere and his cult-like organization called NXIVM. She told the women they were joining what was purported to be a female mentorship group, prosecutors said. But “the victims were then exploited, both sexually and for their labor,” according to federal prosecutors.

■ Pop singer Janet Jackson is adding more stateside shows to her State of the World Tour.

BUSINESS/WEATHER



STEVEN SEME/AP

The newest Monopoly token, a cat, rests on the game board in February 2013 at Hasbro Inc. headquarters, in Pawtucket, R.I. Hasbro has reported a first-quarter loss of \$112.5 million.

Sales plunge at Hasbro as lights go dim at Toys R Us

Associated Press

PAWTUCKET, R.I. — The repercussions from the demise of Toys R Us have begun to ripple outward beginning with Hasbro, which reported a loss and plunging revenue Monday for its first quarter.

Toys R Us, hammered by shifting consumer trends, is shuttering the 700 stores it has left, depriving Hasbro, Mattel and other toymakers of prime display space nationwide.

"We are working to put the near-term disruption from Toys R Us behind us," Hasbro Chairman and CEO Brian Goldner said in a prepared statement.

For the period ended April 1, Hasbro Inc.'s revenue dropped to \$716.3 million, from \$849.7 million. That's well below the \$824.7 million that analysts surveyed

by Zacks Investment Research forecast.

Shares tumbled more than 8 percent before the market opened and shares of Mattel Inc., which reports earnings Thursday, fell almost as much.

Mattel CEO Margo Georgiadis is stepping down, the company said last week.

Hasbro, which makes toys like My Little Pony and Transformers — lost \$112.5 million, or 90 cents per share. A year earlier, the Pawtucket, R.I., company made \$68.6 million, or 54 cents per share. There was one less week in the current quarter than a year ago.

Adjusted for one-time costs and pretax expenses, earnings were 10 cents per share, less than a third of the 31 cents that Wall Street had expected.

Survey: Economists' outlook sunny but not due to tax cuts

By JOSH BOAK

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — America's business economists are sketching a bright picture for the coming months, with a survey finding that more of their companies foresee rising sales and expect to continue hiring and raising pay.

At the same time, nearly two-thirds of respondents in the latest survey by the National Association for Business Economics say President Donald Trump's tax cuts, which were promoted as likely to spur hiring and investment, haven't affected their plans.

The survey being released Monday appears to suggest instead that the economy's momentum is being driven primarily by solid growth worldwide and by the nearly 9-year-old U.S. expansion from the depths of the Great Recession. With the nation's unemployment rate at a 17-year low of 4.1 percent, more companies are facing pressure to raise wages because there are fewer workers available to hire.

The survey reflects the responses of 107 NABE members to a survey conducted between March 22 and April 3.

The president and congressional Republicans have attributed much of the economy's recent gains to corporate optimism over last year's \$1.5 trillion worth of tax cuts, which included a permanent reduction in business tax rates. Some employers paid bonuses or raised wages after the tax cuts were signed into law, and companies such as banks are reporting higher profits. Yet the survey of business economists appears to downplay whatever

influence Trump's tax and trade policies might be having on corporate America's plans.

Sixty-five percent of the NABE respondents said their companies haven't changed their hiring or investment strategies because of the tax cuts. In addition, 68 percent said Trump's tariffs on imported steel and aluminum aren't altering their hiring or investment plans.

For both taxes and tariffs, goods producers, a category that includes manufacturers, were more likely to adjust their plans in response to the administration's agenda. But even among those companies, only a minority of goods producers said they were making changes.

Among the other key findings from the survey:

- Wage growth is becoming more widespread. The survey's ratio of employers that are increasing pay relative to those cutting wages registered its best reading since the association began analyzing the data in 1982. The survey indicated that wage growth likely should be strong during the next three months, which would benefit workers and perhaps consumer spending, the economy's primary fuel. So far, the government's monthly jobs reports have shown relatively modest pay raises, even though many economists have expected low unemployment to accelerate average pay growth.
- Material costs for companies rose in the survey to their highest level since 2011. Along with rising wages, this suggests that companies may face higher inflation, which could be passed along to consumers in the form of price increases.

- Higher labor and material costs could slow profit growth. Though a majority surveyed expect rising sales in the next three months, only a third foresee growth in profit margins. The survey results suggest that profit gains are slowing at least in part because employers are spending more of their revenue on materials and workers.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (April 23)	\$1.2620
Dollar buys (April 23)	69.7924
British pound (April 23)	\$1.44
Japanese yen (April 24)	105.00
South Korean won (April 24)	1,041.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.3944/0.7172
Canada (Dollar)	1.2828
China (Yuan)	6.5133
Denmark (Krone)	6.9931
Egypt (Pound)	17.0007
Euro	\$1.2223/0.8181
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8434
Hungary (Forint)	255.10
Israel (Shekel)	3.5404
Japan (Yen)	108.35
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3004
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Philippines (Peso)	52.33
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Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7504
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3238
South Korea (Won)	1,078.81
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9770
Thailand (Baht)	31.52
Turkey (Lira)	4.1005

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All rates are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollar-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.69
3-month bill	1.69
30-year bond	3.15

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OPINION

Congress again throws in towel on war powers

By HAL BRANDS

Bloomberg View

Something odd is happening in the relationship between Congress and the executive branch regarding the use of military force. For decades, or even longer, countless senators and representatives have complained that presidents are not properly respectful of their constitutional prerogatives in making decisions on employing U.S. military power. And today, most Democrats and a number of Republicans seem to agree that President Donald Trump is an impulsive, erratic, even dangerous commander in chief.

Yet even at a time when so many on Capitol Hill argue that the president cannot be trusted, Congress as a whole is showing little inclination to constrain executive authority in the use of force.

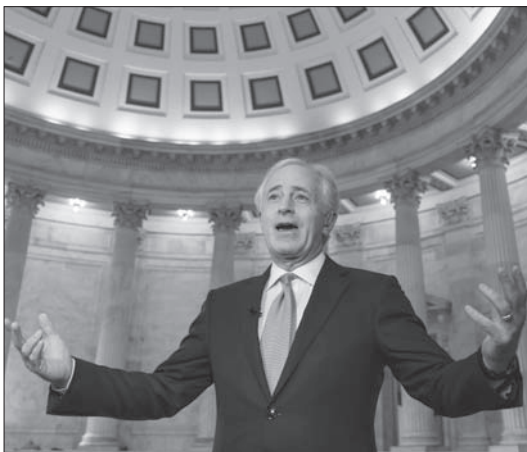
Consider two recent examples. First, earlier this month, Trump ordered U.S. forces to attack targets in Iraq in response to the alleged use of chemical weapons by Bashar Assad's government. Those strikes marked the second time Trump has ordered military attacks against Assad's regime. Yet even though they represented an expansion of U.S. intervention in Syria, even though they could not be justified on grounds of self-defense, even though they were not plausibly covered by any existing congressional authorization for use of military force, and even though the Barack Obama administration did seek congressional approval when it was considering similar strikes in 2013, the Trump administration has not offered any clear articulation of where it believes its authority to use force in this instance comes from.

This apparent indifference to Congress' role has elicited some grumbling from individual senators and representatives. But the body writ large has shown little inclination to push back — by passing resolutions calling on Trump to seek congressional approval for any future strikes against the Syrian regime, by making clear it will not fund future operations not explicitly authorized by Congress, or by otherwise using the legislative tools and authority the Constitution provides.

The same goes for a second example — the ongoing debate about how and whether to limit executive authority in waging the global war on terrorism. For years, congressional observers and other critics have complained that the AUMF passed just after the Sept. 11 attacks — which has served as the legal basis for U.S. operations against terrorist groups from core al-Qaida in 2001 to Islamic State today — is too expansive and has been interpreted too loosely by successive administrations. Today, after numerous false starts, there is a somewhat more tailored authorization under consideration, one that enjoys bipartisan sponsorship.

Yet this new AUMF preserves, rather than challenges, executive dominance in fighting terrorism. It gives the president great flexibility to designate what groups can be targeted with military force and would force Congress to assemble veto-proof supermajorities to override any such designation. It does not meaningfully constrict the scope of the fight as it has been waged to date. And, although it would force a floor debate on the AUMF at least every four years, there is no formal sunset provision.

In sum, the new AUMF affirms the distinctly subordinate role Congress has played since 2001. As Lawfare's Robert Chesney writes, the new AUMF may even "remove any lingering pressure on Congress to step up to the plate and take a share of ownership in decisions to define this conflict."



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker, R-Tenn., warned last year that President Donald Trump might do something that leads to "World War III," yet Congress is showing little inclination to constrain executive authority in the use of force.

At first glance, this deferential attitude seems puzzling, given that members of Congress have consistently voiced unease about the generations-long trend toward greater presidential latitude in foreign affairs. It seems even more puzzling given that so many members, on both sides of the aisle, are plainly uncomfortable with this particular commander in chief.

After all, it is not simply Democrats who worry about the president's proclivity for ill-considered action. It was the Republican chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Bob Corker, who warned last year that Trump might blunder into "World War III." Yet even as Democrats have pushed (without success) legislation seeking to prohibit Trump from unilaterally ordering a preventive strike on North Korea, the overall congressional response has been surprisingly muted.

So what is going on here? There are two principal reasons for this passive attitude — the first prudential and reasonable, the second more cynical and political.

The prudential reason is that congressional deference since 2001 may simply reflect the diffuse and evolving nature of the struggle the U.S. faces. Terrorists do not respect national borders; new enemies arise and advance as others recede. The U.S. threw core al-Qaida on its heels in Afghanistan in 2001 and 2002, only to see the proliferation of affiliate groups in Iraq, Yemen, Somalia and elsewhere thereafter.

Since 2014, the U.S. has also faced threats from ISIS — an al-Qaida splinter group — and its own affiliates from Libya to Afghanistan and beyond. The threat, then, is amorphous and transnational, and it requires ongoing suppression across a range of geographic fronts.

As a result, the best model for waging the war on terrorism may very well be in which the executive has primacy in defining the scope of that conflict, with Congress retaining — but only very selectively using — the right to step in should that flexibility be misused.

Yet there is also a second factor at work, having far more to do with politics than national security. In recent decades, members of Congress have repeatedly learned

that there is often more political risk than profit in standing up and being counted on hard issues involving the use of force.

In 1992, the presidential aspirations of Sen. Sam Nunn and several other Democrats were derailed in large part by the fact that they had opposed a successful war against Iraq the year before. In 2004 and 2008, the presidential ambitions of John Kerry, Hillary Clinton and other Democrats were impaired by the fact that they had supported another, much less successful, war against Iraq in 2003.

Elected officials know that votes that subsequently look unwise will be held against them, which naturally predisposes them to avoid such votes when possible. This is, arguably, an abdication of congressional responsibility, but it is politically savvy nonetheless.

The dilemma, however, is that deference now may make it harder to restrict other, more consequential, uses of force later. Capitol Hill may find it tolerable, if distasteful, to acquiesce when Trump launches his puppet strikes against Bashar Assad, or takes the fight to some new offshoot of ISIS.

But what if the administration had decided to undertake a more significant air campaign against the Assad regime, one that risked Russian casualties and held a higher danger of unwanted escalation? What if this or a future administration decides that a preventive attack on North Korea's nuclear and missile facilities is, regrettably, necessary?

Having an executive that is only loosely constrained on matters involving the use of force may make sense, pragmatically and politically, in the context of a low-grade, continuing war on terrorism. But there is some danger that a pattern of acquiescence in cases where the stakes seem relatively low may make it harder to wrest back meaningful congressional authority in cases where the stakes are far higher.

Hal Brands is the Henry A. Kissinger Distinguished Professor at the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies and a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. His latest book is "American Grand Strategy in the Age of Trump."

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON RED SOX — Reinstated DH Bobby Poyner from the 10-day DL and moved him to Pawtucket (L).

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Options RHP Edward Paredes to Salt Lake (CL). Recalled RHP Jaime Barria from Salt Lake.

MINNESOTA TWINS — Sent OF Byron Buxton to Fort Myers (FSU) for a rehab assignment.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Options INF Tyler Wade to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (L). Designated INF J.P. Taylor for assignment. Recalled INF Gleyber Torres from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre. Signed RHP David Hale to a one-year contract and selected him from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Options OF Guillermo Heredia to Tacoma (PCL). Recalled OF Travis Lee from Tacoma. Reinstated DH Acquired RHP Edwin Quevedo from Tacoma for a rehab assignment.

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Assigned 1B Brandon Snyder outright to Durham (L).

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Placed OF Carlos Toffi on the 10-day DL. Reinstated OF Yoenis Cespedes from the 10-day DL.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ATLANTA BRAVES — Designated RHP Josh Ravin for assignment. Selected the contract of RHP Miguel Socolovich from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre for a rehab assignment.

CINCINNATI REDS — Sent RHP Kevin Shackelford to Louisville (PCL) for a rehab assignment.

CINCINNATI REDS — Placed OF Carlos Gonzalez on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Thursday. Options OF Mike Trout to Albuquerque (PCL). Recalled OF David Dahl and Noel Cuevas from the 10-day DL.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Options LHP RHP Ryan Howard to the 10-day DL. Reinstated RHP Tommy Hunter from the 10-day DL.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Placed RHP Adam Wainwright on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Friday. Reinstated RHP Bret Breaun from Memphis (PCL).

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Options RHP Renfro on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Wednesday. Reinstated OF Manuel Torres from the 10-day DL.

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Placed INF Bryce Brenton on the 10-day DL. Recalled RHP Austin Adams from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

FOOTBALL

Canadian Football League

EDMONTON EXPOS — Traded DL Zachary Barnes to the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

WASAC LEAGUE — Signed WR Marcus Leak and DB Antoine Johnson.

COLLEGE

SALLIE Krawcheck — Named Matt Macgillivray as the new extra point coach.

AP spotlight

April 24

1963 — Bob Cousy ends his 13-year career by scoring 19 points as the Boston Celtics beat the New York Knicks 104-95, winning the NBA championship, beating the Los Angeles Lakers 4-2 in the Finals.

1974 — Tampa, Fla. is awarded the National Hockey League's 17th franchise.

1994 — David Robinson scores 71 points to win the NBA scoring title as the San Antonio Spurs defeat the Houston Rockets in a seven-game series with a 112-97 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers. Robinson is the regular season player to score more than 70 points in a game, edging Shaquille O'Neal for the scoring title.

1996 — Petr Nedved scores a power-play goal with 44.6 seconds left in the fourth overtime, ending the longest NHL game in 60 years and giving the Pittsburgh Penguins a 3-2 triumph over the Washington Capitals.

2004 — Patrick Roy makes a season-high 42 saves while leading Colorado to win San Jose 3-1. It's the 10th playoff win for Roy, the most in NHL history.

2005 — Andres Nocioni has 25 points and 10 rebounds in a period. Thompson leads the way from long range, going 7-for-11, and Raymond Green made four.

2016 — Klay Thompson scores 23 points and the Golden State Warriors set an NBA playoff record with 21 three-pointers to overcome the Cleveland Cavaliers 103-97 in Game 4 of the NBA Finals.

2017 — Stephen Curry and beat the Houston Rockets 124-104 for the second time in the NBA Finals.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Horse Gronkowski be out of Derby

From wire reports

Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski was brimming with his usual ebullience after it was announced last week that he had bought a minority share in a Kentucky Derby qualifier named Gronkowski.

"This horse is a winner, and I love a winner," the human Gronkowski said in a statement. "When I heard about the race-horse being named after me, I started watching and got really stoked when he started winning. He's won his last three races and is now headed to the Derby. I'm all in: Welcome to the Gronk Family, Gronkowski the Horse!"

But now comes word that Gronkowski, the horse, might have run into a spot of trouble, with British trainer Jeremy Noseda telling RacingPost.com that the unbeaten colt has an unspecified issue that could preclude him running at Churchill Downs (he was scheduled to arrive in Kentucky this upcoming weekend).

"We've had a minor setback and we will know where we are in the next 24 hours," Noseda said Monday.

Gronkowski, the horse, has won four straight starts in Great Britain to accrue enough qualifying points for the Kentucky Derby but is seen as a heavy long shot to win the race. He's never run on dirt, with all of his races coming on turf or all-weather surface. He also has never run longer than a mile, with some questioning whether Gronkowski has the stamina to compete in the 1 1/4-mile Derby. Plus, since the Kentucky Derby points system was introduced in 2013, no horse has ever won the race with fewer than 100 qualifying points. Gronkowski has only 50.

Gronkowski, the human, probably has enough disposable income laying around that he'll be okay if his horse investment doesn't pay off (he has said he never touches the money he receives from the six-year, \$54 million contract he signed in 2012, instead living off his endorsements).

Martha Karolyi denies complicity with Nassar

NEW YORK — Former USA Gymnastics national team coordinator Martha Karolyi says she feels for the sexual abuse victims of a former national team doctor serving decades in prison but added she doesn't feel she

should be held responsible for his actions.

Karolyi told "Dateline NBC" in an episode that aired Sunday she "feels extremely bad" for the victims of Larry Nassar but downplayed the idea the atmosphere she created at the national team training center allowed Nassar's behavior to run unchecked.

Karolyi led the national team for 15 years before retiring after the 2016 Rio Olympics. She told Savannah Guthrie she did not turn a blind eye to Nassar's behavior and that the doctor conned her and husband Bela in much the same way he conned the parents and coaches of the athletes who Nassar abused.

Nassar spent nearly three decades at USA Gymnastics before being fired in 2015 after complaints about his behavior. He continued to work at Michigan State University through the fall of 2016 before being hit with federal charges. Nassar is now serving up to 175 years in prison for molesting women and girls and possessing child pornography.

Several gymnasts and coaches previously interviewed by The Associated Press said the Karolyis institutionalized a win-at-all-costs culture that forced girls to flourish in part because the athletes were afraid to challenge authority, according to witness statements in Nassar's criminal case and one of the lawsuits.

Karolyi, who led the U.S. to dozens of medals at the Olympics and world championships during her highly successful tenure, has been named as a co-defendant in at least two civil lawsuits that also name USA Gymnastics and Nassar.

US tops France to make Fed Cup final

AIX-EN-PROVENCE, France — The defending champion United States will play in a second consecutive Fed Cup final after defeating France 3-2 on Sunday.

Madison Keys secured the decisive point for the visiting team by beating Pauline Parmentier 7-6 (4), 6-4 in the second reverse singles. Keys' victory gave the U.S. an unassailable 3-1 lead over France in the World Group semifinals.

The Czech Republic will host the U.S. in the Nov. 10-11 final after defeating Germany 4-1 in Stuttgart.

The French later salvaged some

pride in front of their home crowd as Amandine Hesse and Kristina Mladenovic beat Bethanie Mattek-Sands and CoCo Vandeweghe 6-4, 3-6, 10-6.

The 13th-ranked Keys, a late replacement for Vandeweghe, came back from a 4-1 deficit in the first set and made the decisive break in the ninth game of the second set with two consecutive winners.

Boeser, Barzal, Keller finalists for Calder

NEW YORK — Vancouver right winger Brock Boeser, New York Islanders center Mathew Barzal and Arizona Coyotes center Clayton Kellera are the finalists for the Calder Memorial Trophy for the NHL's rookie of the year.

The winner will be announced June 20 at the NHL Awards shows in Las Vegas.

Boeser, the 23rd overall pick in the 2015 draft, was second among rookies with 29 goals and fifth with 55 points despite appearing in only 62 games. Barzal, the 16th overall selection in 2015, led all rookies with 22 goals and 63 assists in 82 games. Keller, the seventh overall selection in 2016, was second among rookies with 23 goals and 42 assists while skating in all 82 games.

Landry earns first PGA Tour win in Texas

SAN ANTONIO — Andrew Landry won the Valero Texas Open on Sunday for his first PGA Tour victory, pulling away with early birdies and holding on with par saves.

The 30-year-old Texan, busy at home in Austin with the recent birth of the family's first child, parred the final seven holes for a 4-under 68 and a two-stroke victory over Trey Mullinax and Sean O'Hair.

"It was obviously a tough week this week," Landry said. "Going into the last few weeks with the childbirth and just really getting back out."

Landry played at Arkansas after starring at Port Neches-Groves High School east of Houston. Many family members were at TPC San Antonio on Sunday.

"Everybody was out," Landry said. "It was pretty special to be able to snag a victory with everybody being here to share it."

Landry finished at 17-under 271. He earned \$1,116,000 and a spot in the Masters next year.



MICHAEL THOMAS/AP

Andrew Landry tees off at the fifth hole during the final round of the Valero Texas Open on Sunday in San Antonio.

Landry took a two-stroke lead to the par-5 18th after Mullinax chunked a flop shot and bogeyed the short par 4 17th. Landry hit a 55-foot putt over a ridge to 3 feet for par on 17 and made an 8-footer on 18 after running a 50-foot downhill birdie try past.

Mullinax closed with a 69 a day after breaking the AT&T Oaks Course record with a 62.

O'Hair shot 66.

In other golf news:

■ Moriya Jutanugarn won the HUGEL-AT&T LA Open by two shots for her first victory in six years on the LPGA Tour, joining sister Ariya as the second siblings to win on the tour.

The 23-year-old from Thailand shot a 3-under 68 to finish at 12-under 272 at Wilshire Country Club in the tour's return to Los Angeles after a 13-year absence.

■ Kirk Triplett holed out from a bunker for birdie on the first playoff hole in the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf to lift himself and partner Paul Broadhurst past Bernhard Langer and Tom Lehman.

Broadhurst and Triplett closed with a 6-under 48 on the Top of

the Rock par-3 course to match Langer and Lehman at 24 under, playing the front nine in alternate shot and the back nine in better ball.

Bogut returning home to play in NBL

SYDNEY — NBA veteran Andrew Bogut is set to join the Sydney Kings in Australia's National Basketball League.

The Sydney club issued a brief statement Monday saying it had submitted paperwork to the NBL for Bogut's recruitment. The Kings said they'd make no further comment "but will provide an update in due course."

No details of the deal have been confirmed.

Bogut revealed in March that he wouldn't be returning to the NBA this season in order to remain in Australia with his pregnant wife.

After being waived by the Los Angeles Lakers in January, it was expected the 33-year-old free agent would join a contending team for a playoff push.



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NHL PLAYOFFS

Guentzel's four goals power Pens

By DAN GELSTON
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Jake Guentzel dropped to his right knee and slid on the ice in celebration, not only for his second career postseason hat trick, but for the goal that assured Pittsburgh was moving on in the playoffs.

He has established his playoff pedigree as a sensational scorer in just two seasons and helped keep a third straight championship in sight for the Penguins.

Guentzel scored four straight goals to help send the two-time defending Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh Penguins into the next round with an 8-5 win over the Philadelphia Flyers in Game 6 on Sunday.

The Penguins play the winner of the Washington-Columbus series in the Eastern Conference playoffs. Washington leads that series 3-2.

Guentzel scored six goals in the series and added another hat trick to pair with the one he had as a rookie in a first-round series last season against the Blue Jackets.

"He has the ability to play his best when the stakes are the highest. We have a team that does that," Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said. "They embrace adversity. They embrace the struggle. Our team doesn't get rattled. They embrace the challenge."

Guentzel had the third four-goal playoff game in team history, joining Mario Lemieux in 1989 and Kevin Stevens in 1991.

"This is what you want to play in," Guentzel said. "You grow up dreaming about this and this is definitely fun. When the bounces start going your way, you just try



The Penguins' Sidney Crosby, Jake Guentzel and Kris Letang celebrate Guentzel's goal Sunday during the third period in Game 6 of their first-round playoff series in Philadelphia. Pittsburgh won 8-5.

and run with it."

Sean Couturier had the 24th playoff hat trick for the Flyers, who haven't won a Stanley Cup since 1975. Couturier said he played with a torn right MCL suffered in a collision with a teammate at practice last week.

"I couldn't move that well, so I just tried to be well-positioned, have good sticks," he said.

Guentzel, not Sidney Crosby, Phil Kessel or the injured Evgeni Malkin, won the game for the Penguins with goals off costly Flyers turnovers, leading them to their ninth straight playoff series win.

He tied the game at 4 with 54 seconds left in the second period off a Flyers turnover. He scored 30 seconds into the third for the

lead off another giveaway, and sealed one more lopsided win over the Flyers with two goals 10 seconds apart late in the period.

It was 2-2 after one period, 4-4 after two, and nothing was decided in the fiercest game of the series between the longstanding rivals until Guentzel took control.

The Flyers, who survived a 10-game losing streak just to make the playoffs, lost all three games at home and not even a solid start could help them get out of the first round for the first time since 2012.

Couturier had been the Flyers' postseason savior, returning from a serious leg injury to score the Game 5 winner and then open Game 6 with his third goal of the

series just 2:15 into the game.

The Penguins, who won Games 3 and 4 in Philly, took aim on the road sweep with two straight goals. Crosby, naturally, tied the game when he knocked in a rebound off Kris Letang's point shot for his whopping sixth goal of the series. His goal was still being announced when Carl Hagelin made it 2-1 when he was left all alone in front of the net for the easy goal.

Philly's defense was nonexistent and the Flyers had no bodies on Crosby and especially Hagelin on the gimme goals against Michael Neuvirth.

Andrew MacDonald tied it 2-all on a sizzling shot. The defenseman briefly gave his team the spark needed to go toe-to-toe with the Penguins. Couturier scored his second of the game on a beautiful breakaway to open the second period and Scott Laughton scored on a long wristed and nearly pulled off a Lambeau Leap over the boards in celebration.

Matt Murray should have stopped the goal — the kind of bad goal usually allowed by the Flyers — and the crowd derisively chanted his name.

Patric Hornqvist scored his second of the series to pull the Penguins to 4-3.

The series had been more cordial than confrontational but both teams cranked up the nastiness levels in Game 6. Penguins forward Carter Rowney cross-checked Travis Konecny and roughed him up on the ice while the officials just watched. Konecny jumped up and — like a wrestling heel smacking his opponent with a steel chair — cracked Sheary in the back with his stick and was whistled for roughing.

Scoreboard

First round

(Best-of-7; x= necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Tampa Bay 4, New Jersey 1
Tampa Bay 5, New Jersey 2
Tampa Bay 3, New Jersey 1
New Jersey 5, Tampa Bay 2
Tampa Bay 3, New Jersey 1
Tampa Bay 3, New Jersey 1

Boston 3, Toronto 2
Boston 1, Toronto 3
Toronto 4, Boston 2
Boston 3, Toronto 1
Toronto 4, Boston 2

Monday: at Toronto
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Columbus 4, Washington 3, OT
Columbus 5, Washington 3, OT
Washington 3, Columbus 2, 2OT
Washington 4, Columbus 1, OT

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

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Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

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Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
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Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
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Monday: at Columbus
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Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

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Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Wednesday 4, Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 7, Philadelphia 0
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 2

Sunday: Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 5

Monday: at Columbus
Washington 3, Columbus 2

Rinne gets shutout to eliminate Avs

By PAT GRAHAM
Associated Press

DENVER — Colorado had speed and youth. Nashville brought experience and know-how.

It was plain to see which won out — this time.

Mattias Ekholm ignited the offense early with the first goal by a Nashville defenseman in the series. Pekka Rinne stopped 22 shots and the top-seeded Predators advanced to the second round with a 5-0 victory over the Avalanche in Game 6 on Sunday night.

Austin Watson, Filip Forsberg, Nick Bonino and Viktor Arvidsson also scored to help the Predators move on to face Winnipeg. They were 3-1 against the Jets in the regular season.

"I'm very impressed the way (the Avalanche) played. They played very modern hockey, with a lot of speed," said Rinne, who notched his fourth career postseason shutout as the Predators won the series 4-2. "Great game. Great team effort. We didn't give them any life."

Nashville removed any sort of drama with two goals in the opening period and two more in the second to hush the capacity crowd. That's the sort of game plan the Predators envisioned.

"I think that was our best game from start to finish," Watson said. "That's good for us going forward, to be able to take the last game of this series and carry that into how we want



Predators goaltender Pekka Rinne makes a save against the Avalanche during the first period Sunday in Game 6 of their first-round playoff series in Denver.

to play in the next one."

Andrew Hammond ran out of magic in net, allowing five goals. The third-string goaltender nicknamed "Hamburglar" had 44 saves during a Game 5 win in Nashville to extend the series. But he couldn't turn back a formidable Nashville offense that won a second straight playoff contest in Denver. Before this, the Avalanche hadn't lost two straight at the Pepsi Center since early December.

"It's disappointing to us and I'm sure it's disappointing to fans," Avalanche captain Gabriel

Landeskog said. "It means a lot to us that they did give us a standing ovation at the end."

Watson tormented Colorado with four goals and seven points in the series. In all, 11 of Nashville's forwards had at least a point over six games.

The one thing missing was contributions from a blue line that tied a franchise record for goals during the regular season. The Predators' D' was held scoreless until Ekholm's slap shot at 7:20.

Forsberg scored 38 seconds into second to give Nashville a 3-0 lead and completely drained the energy out of the arena. Bonino added another to go with his two assists.

The closest Colorado came to scoring on Rinne was in the second period, when Nikita Zadorov sent in a shot, but it was waved off due to goaltender interference on Carl Soderberg.

"Every line that went out there took a lot of pride in playing good defense, even at the end with the game 5-0. We still protected the net," Rinne said. "Guys wanted to get me that shutout."

It was quite a bounce-back season for Colorado, which boasts one of the youngest teams. The Avalanche went from a 48-point team in 2016-17 to 95 points this season, earning the last playoff spot on the final day of the regular season. The Avs are the first NHL team to post that sort of turnaround from one full season to the next since Pittsburgh also jumped 47 points in 2005-06 (58) to '06-'07 (105).

Penguins 8, Flyers 5

Pittsburgh 8, Philadelphia 2 2-4-8
Philadelphia 2, Pittsburgh 4 2-2-5

First Period—1, Philadelphia, Couturier 3, 2:15, 2, Pittsburgh, Crosby 6 (Dumoulin, Letang), 6:30, 3, Pittsburgh, Letang 2 (Kessel, Sheahan), 7:17, 4, Philadelphia, MacDonald 2 (Couturier, Provora), 15:48.

Second Period—5, Philadelphia, Couturier 4 (Read), 0:40, 6, Philadelphia, Laughton 1 (Couturier), 12:14, 7, Pittsburgh, Hornqvist 2 (Crosby, Guentzel), 13:35, 8, Pittsburgh, Guentzel 3 (Maatta, Herzig), 15:26.

Third Period—9, Pittsburgh, Guentzel 4 (Kessel), 0:10, 10, Pittsburgh, Guentzel 5 (Crosby, Letang), 12:48, 11, Pittsburgh, Guentzel 6 (Hornqvist, Letang), 12:58, 12, Philadelphia, Couturier 5 (Giroux), 17:07, 13, Pittsburgh, Rust 3, 19:25.

Shots on goal—Pittsburgh 22, Philadelphia 11-10-7—28. Philadelphia 10-9-7—26.

Lower-scoring opportunities—Pittsburgh 0 of 1; Philadelphia 0 of 3.

Goalies—Nashville, Rinne 4-2 (26 shots-21 saves), Philadelphia, Neuvirth 1-1 (27-20).

A—18,807 (18,007). T—2:39.

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Cubs 9, Rockies 7

Chicago					Colorado				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Almora cf	6	0	1	1	LMahieu 2b	5	1	0	0
J.Baez ss-2b	6	1	2	3	Ottvino p	0	0	0	0
Bryan 3b	0	0	0	0	Blickson cf	5	3	3	1
Bote pr-ph	2	1	0	0	Arenado 3b	4	2	2	1
L-Prapp ph-3b	2	0	1	0	Story ss	4	1	3	2
Rizzo lb	4	1	1	0	Innetta c	3	0	0	0
L Stila 2b	3	2	2	1	Dunn p	0	0	0	0
Russell ph-ss	2	0	0	0	McMahon lb	2	0	0	0
Schwabr lf	4	2	2	1	Dahl lf-rf	4	0	1	1
Cratini c	4	0	1	1	Dsmnd lb-if	3	0	2	0
Morrow p	0	0	0	0	Cuevas rf	3	0	0	0
Heyward rf	4	1	2	2	Oberg p	0	0	0	0
Qintana p	2	0	0	0	McGee p	0	0	0	0

Chisiek p	0	0	0	0
Edwards p	0	0	0	0
Cntras ph-c	0	0	0	0
Totals	40	9	13	9
Chicago				
Colorado				
E—J.Baez (5), Edwards (1). DP—Chicago				
1. LOB—Chicago 11, Colorado 8. 2B—J.Baez:				
(5), Desmond (2). 3B—Story (1). HR—J.Baez				
(7), Blackmon (8), Arenado (3). SB—LeMa-				
hieau (2), Desmond (2). S—Quintana (2).				
IP	H	R	ER	BB
Chicago				
Quintana W-2-1	5½	8	4	4

Cisnek H,2	1	1	3	2	2
Edwards H,4	1½	1	0	0	2
Morrow S,4-4	1	2	0	0	1
Colorado					
Marquez L,1-2	3½	8	6	6	1
Rusin	1½	0	0	0	1
Shaw	½	2	0	0	0
Dunn	1	2	3	3	1
Oberg	¾	1	0	0	0
McGee	1	0	0	0	0
Ottavino	1	0	0	0	1

HBP—by Marquez (Bryant), by McGee (Rizzo). WP—Morrow. T=3:47. A=48,137 (50,398).

Dodgers 4, Nationals 3				
Washington	ab	r	h	bi
T.Trner ss	5	0	0	0
Kendrick 2b	5	0	1	0
Harp Jr 1b	4	0	1	0
M.Zimmerman lf	4	1	1	0
Y.Joyce cf	3	3	1	1
S.Garra pf	3	0	1	0
Solis p	0	0	0	0
Gott p	0	0	0	0
W.eters ph-c	1	0	0	0
P.Snow c	0	0	0	0
Kntzler c	0	0	0	0
M.Adams ph 1	0	0	0	0
Royalds pr	0	0	0	0
Hilke 3b	2	0	1	0
Dillon 2b	2	0	0	0
W.Chamberlain lf	1	0	0	0

Totals	33	3	9	3	Totals	26	4	5	4
Washington					010	101	000	000	3
Los Angeles					000	003	10x	4x	4

E-A.Wood (2). LOB—Washington 8
 Los Angeles 4, 2B—Kendrick (7), Zimmerman (2), M.Taylor (5), C.Taylor (4)
 C.Seager (4), Grandal (6), Bellinger (4)
 HR—M.Taylor (1), SB—M.Taylor 2 (8), CS—
 C.Taylor (3), Grandal (1), SF—Mo.Sierra
 (2), P.Severino (1), C.Seager (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Washington						
Hellickson	5½	3	3	3	2	9
Solis BS 1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gott L 0-1	1½	1	1	1	0	2
Kinzler	1	0	0	0	1	3

Los Angeles						
Wood	6	6	3	2	1	4
Fields W2-0	1	1	0	0	1	2
Cingrani H,4	1/2	0	0	0	0	1
Baez H,2	2	0	0	0	1	0
Jansen S,3-5	1	2	0	0	0	2

Solis pitched to 2 batters in the 6th.

HBP—by Gott (Barnes). WP—Gott. T—3:21. A—51,297 (56,000).

Rays 8, Twins 6

Minnesota	ab	r	h	bi	Tampa Bay	ab	r	h	bi
B.Dzier 2b	5	1	2	2	Span If	4	1	1	0
Mauer dh	2	0	1	0	Cron dh	5	1	2	2
Grssman rf	3	0	0	0	Rfsnyder pr	0	1	0	0
Sano ph-3b	2	0	1	1	Gomez rf	5	1	1	2
E.Rsrio lf-cf	5	0	1	1	B.Miller 1b	3	0	0	0
Mrrison lb	4	1	1	0	Dan.Rbr 3b	4	1	1	4
E.Escbr 3b-ss4	2	1	1	0	Wendle 2b	4	1	2	1
Kepler cf-rf	4	0	1	1	Sucre c	4	1	3	0
Adranza ss-lf4	1	1	1	0	Field pr	0	0	0	0
J.Cstro c	2	1	0	0	W.Ramos c	0	0	0	0
Garver ph-c	0	0	0	0	M.Smith cf	3	0	0	0
					Hchvrrss ss	4	1	1	3
Totals	35	6	9	6	Totals	36	8	14	8

Minnesota	011	001	120	-6
Tampa Bay	200	004	002	-8
E-E.Rosario (3). DP--Minnesota 1.				
Tampa Bay 1 LOB--Minnesota 8, Tampa Bay 0.				
Bay 7. 2B--Kepler (4), Dan.Robertson (3).				
HR--E.Scorbar (2), Cron (5), Gomez (3).				
Echavarria (1).				
	IP	H	R	ER
Minnesota				
Hughes	3 1/3	5	2	2
Pressly	1 2/3	0	0	0
Rogers BS,1	7/3	3	3	3
Busenitz	1	3	1	1
Hildenberger	1/3	0	0	0

Reed L.0-1	1	3	2	2	0	1
Tampa Bay						
Chirinos	4½	4	2	2	2	e
Yarbrough	1½	1	2	2	1	0
Roe H,4	½	1	0	0	1	0
Alvarado H,6	1½	2	2	2	0	1
Romo BS,1	½	1	0	0	1	0
Colome W,2-2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Yarbrough pitched to						
7th HBP—by						

MLB

Belt sets at-bat record with 21 pitches

By **BERNIE WILSON**
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Rookie right-hander Jaime Barria of the Los Angeles Angels kept throwing strikes and Brandon Belt of the San Francisco Giants kept fouling them off and fouling them off and fouling them off and fouling them off.

Neither Barria or Belt was about to give in. Mike Trout and the other Angels outfielders began looking at each other in amazement as the second at-bat of the game dragged on. The crowd buzzed as Belt peppered the second deck behind home plate and even the seats down the right-field line with souvenirs.

Belt hit eleven straight balls into the crowd on a full count, hanging in for an epic 21-pitch at-bat before lining out to right fielder Mike Calhoun.

Belt later homered to lead Johnny Cueto and the Giants over the Los Angeles Angels 4-2 on Sunday.

"I wasn't going to give it up and the pitcher wasn't either," Belt said. "It made for a good battle. If it helped get me a little bit locked in for later in the game, it was worth it."

It was the longest at-bat in the majors since records began in 1988. The previous high of 20

pitches in a plate appearance since 1988 was when Houston's Ricky Gutierrez struck out against Cleveland's Bartolo Colon on June 26, 1998, according to Retrosheet.

At one point, Belt chatted with catcher Martin Maldonado.

"He actually said that he hates when someone else does that. Belt said that," Maldonado said.

"If I'm in the field and somebody does it, I can't stand it, but I wasn't going to give in," Belt said. "I basically had to apologize to everybody after that."

In all, the left-handed Belt fouled off 16 pitches, ending an at-bat the Giants said lasted 12 minutes, 45 seconds.

It took nine pitches for Belt to work the count full, as he fouled off five pitches in the process. He swung and missed just once and was greeted with high-fives when he returned to the dugout.

"I think after like the 16th pitch the crowd started getting into it," said Trout, whose two-run homer in the eighth was his big league-leading ninth and his third in as many games. "I couldn't imagine being up there for 21 pitches. It's unbelievable."

Said Angels shortstop Andrew Simmons: "That was impressive, huh? I was really tired after that. Regardless of the end result that was fun to watch. Don't want

to do it again."

Belt saw 40 pitches in five at-bats.

"Even the second at-bat he did the same thing. Like, this can't be happening," Maldonado said.

"I tried some changeups and then finally the fastball in got him out," Barria said through a translator. "I tried a curveball at one point and somehow he got contact and kept fouling it off. It was obviously tough."

Said Belt: "You've got to give it to him. He kept on throwing strikes. He didn't really hang anything except maybe a couple of pitches, but it was enough to throw me off and not get the barrel on the ball, so it was a tough at-bat."

Angels pitching coach Charles Nagy checked on Barria (1-1) after the long at-bat. Barria had thrown nine pitches to Joe Panik, who hit a leadoff single, before throwing 21 to Belt.

Remarkably, Barria threw 49 pitches and loaded the bases in the first inning but didn't allow a run.

Belt singled and scored in the third and launched a lead-off homer to right against Blake Parker in the fifth. Belt saw a total of 38 pitches in his first three at-bats, then hit the first pitch his last two times up.

Barria was chased after leading the bases with no outs in



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

The Giants' Brandon Belt, right, reacts after hitting a foul ball during the first inning Sunday against the Angels in Anaheim, Calif. Belt had the longest at-bat in the majors since records began in 1988, taking 21 pitches before lining out to right field.

the third. He allowed two runs and six hits, struck out one and walked one. He got only six outs on 77 pitches.

Cueto (2-0) allowed only two hits in six shutout innings. He took a no-hitter into the sixth and struck out seven.

Roundup

Cubs get win in 'bizarre game' against Rockies

Associated Press

DENVER — Nolan Arenado broke for home the moment Brandon Morrow's bases-loaded pitch bounced to the backstop. Arenado wound up causing an unusual ending that left the Colorado Rockies with a painful loss.

Arenado was initially called safe and then was ruled out on a video review that ended a 9-7 win for the Chicago Cubs on Sunday. The game included diving catches in the outfield, sign stealing, a fan getting tackled on the infield and Cubs star Kris Bryant getting hit on the head by a pitch.

"It was a bizarre game," Chicago manager Joe Maddon said. "I don't think I've been out on the field that often without getting kicked off ever. Fortunately no-body got hurt."

Bryant left in the first inning after he was hit by a 96 mph pitch from German Marquez. The ball made a loud sound as it hit off the underside of the flap of Bryant's helmet. Cubs spokesman Peter Chou said Bryant passed tests and had no sign of a concussion but had a cut over his left eye.

"I think KB's fine," Maddon said. "I have no idea until I've spoken to by the doctors. I hope that's the case."

More than three hours later after Bryant was helped off the field, David Dahl's two-out walk against Brandon Morrow loaded



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

The Cubs' Kris Bryant reacts after taking a pitch to the batting helmet from Rockies starter German Marquez in the first inning Sunday in Denver. Bryant was pulled from the game after getting hit.

the bases with two outs in the ninth, and Morrow bounced an 0-2 slider that ricocheted off the mitt of catcher Wilson Contreras.

The ball bounced to the third-base side of the plate, Contreras grabbed it after a rebound off the low, brick wall and threw a perfect strike to Morrow, who tagged Arenado on the right ankle as Arenado's foot crossed the plate. Umpire Cory Blaser signaled

safe, but the call was reversed after 90 seconds later.

Athletics 4, Red Sox 1: Kris Davis hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer off David Price with two outs in the eighth inning and host Oakland dealt the Red Sox consecutive losses for the first time under new manager Alex Cora.

Boston had won its first six series before losing two of three at the Coliseum, where they were no-hit Saturday by Sean Manaea. They still have the best record in the majors at 17-4.

Yankees 5, Blue Jays 1: Gleyber Torres went 0-for-4 with a strikeout, double-play grounder, popup and flyout in his big league debut. And the youthful host Yankees beat Toronto when New York used a starting lineup that didn't include a player 30 or older for the first time since Sept. 29, 1989.

Luis Severino (4-1) allowed three hits and struck out six in seven innings, and David Robertson and Aroldis Chapman finished the four-hit.

Dodgers 4, Nationals 3: Cody Bellinger followed Yasmani Grandal's two-run double with a tying RBI double in the sixth, and Corey Seager drove in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning of host Los Angeles' sixth win in seven games.

Diamondbacks 4, Padres 2: Patrick Corbin (4-0) struck out 11 in six innings, and host Arizo-

na (15-6) became the first team since San Francisco in 2003 to win its first seven series.

Indians 7, Orioles 3: Jose Ramirez homered twice and drove in three runs, and Corey Kluber (3-1) won his third straight start, allowing three runs and six hits in seven-plus innings.

Manny Machado hit two solo homers for host Baltimore, his third multihomer game this season. Baltimore (6-16) has lost nine of 10.

Royals 8, Tigers 5: Mike Moustakas hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer in the seventh off Buck Farmer after Drew VerHagen (0-1) walked two batters. The Royals won for only the second time in 12 games, and Moustakas extended his hitting streak to 14.

Rays 8, Twins 6: Carlos Gomez, in a 2-for-38 slide, hit a two-run homer off Addison Reed (0-1) in the ninth.

Daniel Robertson had a career-high four hits for host Tampa Bay, which has gone 7-5 after a 1-8 start.

Phillies 3, Pirates 2: Aaron Altherr hit a winning single in the 11th after Andrew Knapp's opposite-field triple off the left-field wall against Rich Rodriguez (0-1). Host Philadelphia swept a four-game series against Pittsburgh for the first time since May 12-15, 1994.

Astros 7, White Sox 1: Jose Altuve hit a go-ahead single in a five-run seventh inning, and visiting Houston stretched its winning streak to six.

Lance McCullers Jr. (3-1) allowed one run and eight hits over six innings as the World Series champions completed a three-game sweep in which they outscored the White Sox 27-2.

Brewers 4, Marlins 2: Christian Yelich hit his first home run since coming off the disabled list, and host Milwaukee completed a four-game sweep that extended its winning streak to six and dropped Miami to 5-16.

Junior Guerra (2-0) allowed one unearned run and five hits in five innings.

Cardinals 9, Reds 2: Kolten Wong and Paul DeJong homered to back Miles Mikolas (3-0), who yielded two runs — one earned — and five hits over seven innings. Host St. Louis has won eight of nine overall and 11 in a row over the Reds.

Cincinnati has lost five in a row and 13 of 14. The Reds have the worst record in the majors at 3-18.

Rangers 7, Mariners 4: Nomar Mazara and Joey Gallo homered as host Texas opened a 4-0 lead in the fourth against Erasmo Ramirez (0-1), who allowed five runs and five hits over 4 2/3 innings in his season debut.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Bucks get even with Celtics

Antetokounmpo's tip-in lifts Milwaukee after blowing 20-point lead

By GENARO C. ARMAS
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — After losing a 20-point lead to the Boston Celtics, the Milwaukee Bucks were determined not to lose another playoff game.

Leave it to All-Star forward Giannis Antetokounmpo to come up with a big play in the final seconds on Sunday.

Antetokounmpo scored 27 points, including tipping in the go-ahead basket with 5 seconds left, and the Bucks held on for a 104-102 win to tie the first-round playoff series at two games apiece.

Boston's Marcus Morris missed a 14-footer at the buzzer with Kris Middleton's hand in his face to seal a nail-biting win for the Bucks.

Seconds earlier, the 6-foot-11 Antetokounmpo jumped and reached up with his left arm around Boston's Jayson Tatum to put back Malcolm Brogdon's missed layup for the game winner.

"It's a heck of a play," coach Joe Prunty said.

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Boston.

Antetokounmpo added seven rebounds and five assists, while Middleton scored 23 points. The Bucks' best players were clutch in the closing seconds of a tense victory, another sign of inexperience for the one of the league's up-and-coming teams.

"One of the most important things that we can carry from this game moving forward is that we stayed disciplined and we trusted one another," Antetokounmpo said.

Wall takes over for Wizards

By HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When Wizards guard Bradley Beal fouled out with about five minutes left in a tied Game 4 against the Toronto Raptors, he couldn't believe the call.

He raced to the other end of the court. When he returned to his team's sideline, he threw a red towel, before being held back by teammates.

"It was beyond emotional. Beyond mad. Frustrated. Pretty much any synonym you can add," Beal said. "I told my team that we were going to win, regardless. Especially if we've got John still in the game, I love our chances."

That would be John Wall, and Beal was exactly right. Wall took over down the stretch after his backcourt mate was done for the day, scoring or assisting on 10 of Washington's last 14 points as the No. 8 seed Wizards came back to beat the No. 1 Raptors 106-98 Sunday night and even their Eastern Conference first-round playoff series at 2-1.



MORRY GASAR/AP

The Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo is fouled by the Celtics' Al Horford on Sunday. Antetokounmpo tipped in the go-ahead basket.

umpo said.

It could just as easily have fallen apart for Milwaukee after losing a 20-point lead with 7:37 left in the third quarter.

Jaylen Brown had 34 points for the Celtics, while Tatum added 21. Tatum's 18-footer with 52 seconds left gave the Celtics a brief 100-99 lead.

He just couldn't hold off Antetokounmpo on the other end

the decisive tip-in.

The disappointing end for the Celtics overshadowed their spirited rally from a 65-45 deficit. Play got chippy and the Celtics limited the Bucks' transition game.

They came up one basket short at the end.

Antetokounmpo "made a great tip-in and we was battling for the ball. That's what great players do," coach Brad Stevens said.

Wall takes over for Wizards

"When Brad went out," Wall said, "I knew I had to do whatever it took."

Wall finished with 27 points and 14 assists and, at the other end of the court, guided All-Star DeMar DeRozan, making sure the Wizards would not be pushed to the brink of elimination ahead of Game 5 at Toronto.

"He's a big shot maker. A playmaker. It was what you want and what you expect," Wizards coach Scott Brooks said. "We needed him to step up. He stepped up big."

This was a game the Raptors led by 14 points early in the second half. But as their offense bogged down, the Wizards clawed back.

It was 92-all when Beal — who led Washington with 31 points — drew his sixth foul on a play in which he and DeRozan collided while Toronto had the ball.

Asked whether the official told him why that call was made, Beal replied: "He wasn't explaining that one. There was no explaining to do."

Wizards center Marcin Gortat's view of the officiating: "I truly be-

Scoreboard

First round

(Best-of-seven; x if necessary)

Eastern Conference
Toronto 2, Washington 1
 Toronto 114, Washington 102
 Toronto 130, Washington 119
Sunday: Wizards 106, Raptors 98
Wednesday, April 25
Friday: at Washington
Wednesday, April 25
Boston 2, Milwaukee 2
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NBA PLAYOFFS

Cavaliers win, even series at 2 games apiece

Korver hits 4 threes to help sink Pacers

By MICHAEL MAROT
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — LeBron James has been the first-round king for 12 years.

On Sunday night, he needed Kyle Korver's three-point shooting to put him in position to extend his reign.

The two combined for all of Cleveland's points in a late 10-2 run, helping the Cavaliers to a 104-100 victory over the Indiana Pacers to even the series at 2. James drew boos from the crowd after flipping the ball up the court to run out the clock.

"You don't even want to go down 3-1 against anybody, no matter if it's the first round or if you're fortunate enough to get all the way to the finals," James said. "It's just too difficult."

James finished with 32 points, 13 rebounds, seven assists and another crowning achievement — his 100th career playoff game with 30 or more points. Yet he has been no typical series for James, who started the playoffs with an NBA-record 21 consecutive wins in the first round.

He's already seen the Pacers go wire-to-wire in Game 1, miss a potential tying three-pointer in the last 35 seconds of Game 2, rally from a 17-point deficit to win Game 3 and erase a 16-point, first-half deficit to take the lead



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Cavaliers forward Larry Nance Jr. (22) blocks the shot of Indiana Pacers center Myles Turner during the first half of Game 4 on Sunday in their first-round playoff series in Indianapolis. Cleveland won 104-100.

early in the fourth.

This one looked and felt a lot like the three previous games — tough and physical down to a confusing sequence in the final seconds when Lance Stephenson

was whistled for wrestling Jeff Green to the court while hoping for a jump ball.

Indiana still led 93-91 with 4:28 to go on Sunday.

Then James and Korver revert-

ed to their old ways.

Korver's three with 3:48 left made it 94-93. James followed with a layup, Korver knocked down another three and James added another layup to give the

Did you know

Cleveland's LeBron James scored 32 points on Sunday, his 100th career playoff performance of 30 or more points. He is second all-time to Michael Jordan (109).

SOURCE: Associated Press

Cavs a 101-95 lead with 1:52 left. Indiana never recovered.

Korver wound up with 18 points and four threes to give him 200 in his postseason career.

"His four threes were huge," James said. "We needed every last one of them, obviously."

The Pacers, meanwhile, lamented a missed opportunity.

Despite having seven players score in double figures, making more baskets, grabbing more offensive rebounds and matching Cleveland's 12 threes, Indiana missed six of its last eight shots.

"We just didn't play the game the right way," Pacers coach Nate McMillan said. "You get into these games, these emotional games, and you're so pumped up — sometimes you try to do some things yourself. Usually, those things don't work."

Ginobili, Aldridge help Spurs beat Warriors to avoid sweep

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Ettore Messina was screaming at the Spurs, and Manu Ginobili loved it.

Before Gregg Popovich, Ginobili played in Italy for Messina, and on Sunday he delivered a throwback performance for his old coach to save the Spurs' season.

Experiencing a flashback to his days playing for Messina in the Euroleague in his early 20s, the 40-year-old Ginobili scored 10 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter to help San Antonio beat the Golden State Warriors 103-90. The Spurs avoided a series sweep as Popovich missed his second straight game following the death of his wife, Erin, on Wednesday.

In his 16th season in the NBA and perhaps the final home game of his career, Ginobili rebounded from a scoreless effort in Game 3 to help Messina capture his first playoff victory as a coach, albeit an unofficial one.

"For moments when he talks to the rest of the team, or when he gets upset and he yells at us, a lot of flashbacks," Ginobili said,

"It was a do-or-die game, make it happen or go home ... we ended up getting it done tonight."

LaMarcus Aldridge

San Antonio forward who had 22 points and 10 rebounds on Sunday

chuckling. "He's very strict and he wants the team to play his way, so whenever we stopped executing the way we should have, the old himself comes back. It was good to see him coaching on this stage. Good memories."

Ginobili played for Messina while both were with Virtus Bologna in 2000-02.

Kevin Durant had 34 points and 13 rebounds for the Warriors, who can wrap up the series in Game 5 at home Tuesday.

"You have got to give them a lot of credit," Golden State forward Draymond Green said. "They came out and they probably played with more intensity this game than they did the entire series."

LaMarcus Aldridge had 22 points and 10 rebounds to lead the Spurs, but they were willing to be finish by Ginobili, who has said he will decide in the offseason if

he will return for a 17th season.

Ginobili was 3-for-4 in the final quarter, including making both of his three-point attempts, and did not have a turnover in 6½ minutes.

"I am so happy for him," Messina said. "I'm so happy. I think he deserves everything that is happening to him in his life and his career."

The Spurs were 15-for-28 on three-pointers on Sunday after shooting just 26 percent in the opening three games. The Warriors were 7-for-28.

"It was a do-or-die game, make it happen or go home, and I think every guy played with that mentality, that focus, and we ended up getting it done tonight," Aldridge said.

Aside from Durant, only Klay Thompson (12) and Shaun Livingston (10) scored in double figures for the Warriors.



DARREN ABAT/AP

The Spurs' Manu Ginobili, left, drives against Golden State Warriors forward Draymond Green during the second half of Game 4 on Sunday in San Antonio. Ginobili scored 16 in the Spurs' 103-90 win.

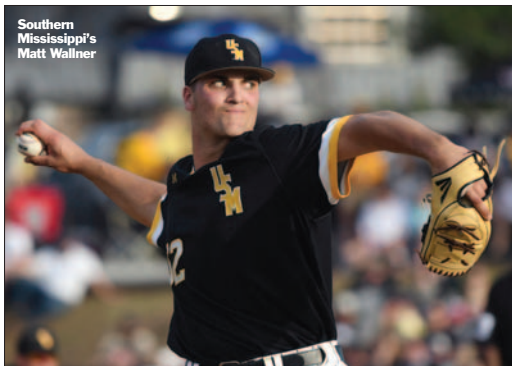
SPORTS



Working the count

Belt sets record with 21-pitch, 13-minute at-bat » **MLB, Page 29**

Southern Mississippi's Matt Wallner



Pulling double duty

Ohtani's emergence could open door for two-way college players

By ERIC OLSON
Associated Press

Louisville coach Dan McDonnell is going to bat for two-way college baseball players.

Here's his pitch:

With the hubbub over Japanese two-way sensation Shohei Ohtani, he said, the time has come for collegians excelling as pitchers and hitters to get more opportunities to do

"I don't know why we have to watch Japan do it and say, 'Hey, it works over in Japan, so let's do it here.' It's been working in college baseball forever."

Dan McDonnell
Louisville baseball coach

both as professionals.

"I don't know why we have to watch Japan do it and say, 'Hey, it works over in Japan, so let's do it here,'"

McDonnell said. "It's been working in college baseball forever."

Former major leaguers such as Dave Winfield, Todd Helton and

Mark Kotsay were great pitchers and hitters as collegians, but had to give up dual roles to be position players as pros. McDonnell argues any of them, and others, could have been stars as two-way players in the big leagues — if only they had been given the chance.

McDonnell's opinion comes from his vantage point as the college coach of Brendan McKay, the No. 4

SEE EMERGENCE ON PAGE 27



Louisville's Brendan McKay
AP photos

Penguins win Game 6, eliminate Flyers » NHL playoffs, Page 26

